Digital cinema is on the horizon. Rather than having film projected from a reel of celluloid, it will be projected from data stored on a computer server hooked up to a digital movie projector. Going from film to digital will be the largest revolution in movies since the introduction of the talkies back in 1927.

Digital movie projectors that were developed and built by Christie Digital Systems Canada (Christie), a small company in Kitchener, Ontario, have been used for such movies as *Star Wars: Attack of the Clones* and *Jurassic Park III*. Located far away from the glitz and glamour of Hollywood, the company is on the cutting edge of digital cinema. Under the leadership of Gerry Remers (MA '82 Philosophy), who is their president and chief operating officer, Christie is waiting for its big break—when Hollywood goes digital.

Remers received his BA degree in Honours German and Philosophy at Wilfrid Laurier University before coming to UW to do his master's degree in Philosophy. “I feel that my Philosophy background has helped me be successful in business,” says Remers. “Skill sets that are relevant to getting a liberal arts degree—critical thinking, a broader empathy for different viewpoints, a greater ability to work within ambiguous frameworks, and good writing and communication skills—have helped me immeasurably in my role at Christie.” Remers also holds an MBA ('83) from York University, and studied at Cologne University in Germany (1983 - 84) with a post-graduate scholarship in International Business (DAAD—German Government). While attending the University of Cologne, he took business courses and worked part-time for Electrohome doing market research for projectors in Germany.

In 1994, Remers joined Electrohome as their director of marketing, after working with Nortel for seven years as senior product manager for the Vista line of phones. His role at Electrohome has always been to try and define the future direction of Electrohome Projection Systems (PS). When he started, PS relied on cathode ray tube (CRT) technology only, which has since been sold off because it was “old” analog technology. It was Remers who pushed Electrohome to take on digital light processing (DLP) and related new technologies, which later led to their strength in digital cinema.

“...Christie became the first DLP Cinema™ projector manufacturer to be involved with the making of the *Star Wars* Trilogy from production to post-production to exhibition.”
STANDING TALL

In my office, I keep a small work of Inuit art that I quite enjoy. It is a carving of two Inuit, one standing on the shoulders of the other. The posture is a strategy to increase the range of vision so the two can see farther along the Arctic tundra. The carving is an effective reminder that each of us, acting alone, cannot succeed as well as we can if we work together.

It means even more than that to me. Students currently at UW are standing on the shoulders of those who’ve gone before. That’s you. The alumni who have earned the University of Waterloo its sterling reputation as “Most Innovative” and a source of “Leaders of Tomorrow,” provide a big boost to graduating students. These alumni come from all faculties at UW, and we are fiercely proud of every one. However, Arts alumni have contributed full measure. If we stoop to using an economic measuring stick—in an effort to get a grip on this—we can use the premium enjoyed by graduates from each faculty at UW over the average wage earned by grads (in similar faculties) at other universities. Statistics are available only for Ontario grads two years after graduation. And remember that we are not comparing Engineering salaries to Arts salaries, but Arts here versus Arts elsewhere. The premium for Arts grads from UW over Arts grads at other Ontario universities is actually greater than that enjoyed by grads from other UW faculties compared to their counterparts. The biggest premium of all is—wait for it—humanities grads with co-op degrees from the University of Waterloo. Two years after graduation, the UW premium is about $7,000 higher than co-op humanities grads from elsewhere. It is $12,000 more than the average for all regular humanities grads from Ontario universities.

There is no reason to downplay the superb record of the remarkable graduates from other faculties at UW. The point is this: Arts grads have an outstanding record too. This assessment makes too much of the numbers merely because other evidence on the effects of university education is so hard to measure. We hope the unexpectedly large incoming class in the fall of 2002 contains students motivated by the desire to develop understanding, not merely to gain a financial premium. Let me confess that you cannot get the economist out of me merely by making me Dean. At the same time, I am completely convinced that many graduates are performing a public service in ways that provide satisfaction to you, even as it makes the world a much better place on account of your dedication. I know many of you in that category and greatly admire public-spirited contributions—that goes for alumni, students, staff, professors, everyone.

That aside, the way I see things, organizations in society try to buy talent—they don’t randomly throw money around. This means that Arts alumni deserve the recognition they get for outperforming graduates from other universities by such a wide margin.

Return to my Inuit sculpture. By now you’ve figured out that the alumni get to stand on the bottom. We are all grateful for those sturdy shoulders you provide for the Arts students here now. In the end, their success will help your reputation too.

Robert Kerton, Dean of Arts

New Appointments

The Arts Alumni Office welcomes new Arts faculty members and congratulates those entering new positions within the Faculty.

RECENT FACULTY APPOINTMENTS INCLUDE:
Malik Datardina, Lecturer, Accountancy
Natalia Kotchetova, Lecturer, Accountancy
Alister Mason, Professor, Accountancy
Nancy Vanden Bosch, Lecturer, Accountancy
Andrew Houston, Assistant Professor, Drama and Speech Communication
John Burbidge, Professor, Economics
Margaret Insley, Assistant Professor, Economics
Shelley Hulan, Assistant Professor, English Language and Literature
Kate Lawson, Assistant Professor, English Language and Literature
Heather Smyth, Assistant Professor, English Language and Literature
Mathias Schulze, Assistant Professor, Germanic and Slavic Studies
James Danckert, Assistant Professor, Psychology

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS INCLUDE:
Richard Bodell, Director, Arts and Business, Faculty of Arts
Alister Mason, Director, Accountancy
W. Robert Needham, Associate Chair, Undergraduate Studies, Economics

Facility Retirements

The Faculty of Arts wishes to express its sincerest gratitude for the many years of contribution offered by the following recent faculty retirees:

Keith Eagles, Associate Professor, History
Anne Minas, Associate Professor, History
Judith Wubnig, Assistant Professor, Philosophy
Gary Griffin, Professor, Psychology
Patricia Rowe, Professor, Psychology
Richard Steffy, Professor, Psychology

Fraser Easton, Associate Chair and Undergraduate Officer, English Language and Literature
Jane Buyers, Chair, Fine Arts
Michael Boehringer, Chair, Germanic and Slavic Studies
James Skidmore, Associate Chair and Undergraduate Officer, Germanic and Slavic Studies
Geoffrey Hayes, Associate Chair, Undergraduate Studies, History
James Walker, Associate Chair, Graduate Studies, and Director, Tri-University Graduate Program, History
John Goyder, Associate Chair, Undergraduate Studies, Sociology

The Dean poses with CNN anchor Colleen McEdwards (BA ’88, English Co-op), who visited UW in June to give a talk on media concentration. McEdwards, an award-winning foreign correspondent and head of CNN’s Moscow bureau, spoke about “Corporate Influences on Canadian and American News.” Her talk explored the increasing concentration of corporate ownership and its growing impact on how we receive our information. She has plans to do a book and a research project on media responsibility. McEdwards is the 1999 recipient of the Arts Alumni Achievement Award from UW. (Adapted from the UW news bureau)
continued from front cover

In 1999, Remers, who at the time was president of Electrohome Projection Systems, negotiated the sale of the projection systems division to California-based Christie Systems, a manufacturer of mechanical film projectors. The company was renamed Christie Digital Systems Canada, and is now a market leader in a number of projection areas and dominates the market for both mechanical and digital cinema projectors. They are the only company, globally, that offers both technologies to the entertainment sector; they also excel in the virtual reality segment. Christie’s Mirage projectors are used in many of the 3D stereoscopic display installations around the world. “Honda, Nissan, GM, Daimler Chrysler, all use our projectors to speed up the car development process,” says Remers.

After the Electrohome merger with Christie Systems, Remers’ role with the company changed. As president of Christie Digital Systems Canada, he now has global responsibility for manufacturing, engineering, and overall corporate strategy, while his U.S.-based counterpart is responsible for global sales and marketing.

Christie has operations in both Kitchener, Ontario, and Cypress, California. However, Kitchener is the heart of their engineering operation, with close to 60 people in its group. The company employs around 300 people worldwide and has $170 million in revenues.

The company’s major competitors include Barco (Belgium), NEC (Japan), and Synelec (France). Christie is unique in that it is the only North American player in the high-end projection business. The company’s competitors don’t specialize in the niches that they are in (i.e., 3D, control rooms, and cinema). Christie is also known for their high-end products—for example, this year’s Academy Awards used primarily their S12 Roadie high-brightness projectors for their ceremonies, and Dreamworks, Pixar, and Lucasfilm also use their products.

Christie’s portable Roadster projector model is designed for rental staging and less permanent situations like on-location production. In fact, in 2002, Christie became the first DLP Cinema™ projector manufacturer to be involved with the making of the Star Wars Trilogy from production to post-production to exhibition. Pixar Animation Studios used the company’s projector for the post-production and digital release of Monstars, Inc. Christie’s projectors were also used for the digital screening of Jurassic Park III, Spy Kids™, and Spy Kids™ 2.

Director George Lucas is the driving force behind shifting the movie industry to digital, and Christie is closely aligned with him and with Lucasfilm. Not only did Lucas shoot his latest Star Wars movie, Attack of the Clones, with a new kind of top-end digital camera, but “Our Roadie products are used at the Lucas ranch,” says Remers. “My understanding is that George’s family uses the venue to watch early releases and to play video games.” The company has since been the leading supplier of the systems to Lucasfilm, which uses them for editing and screening. Remers notes that other directors are coming on board after seeing the quality they can get from digital projectors.

Christie is a leading manufacturer of high-performance projection and integrated solutions for network operation centres, broadcast monitoring centres, surveillance rooms, business presentations and meeting rooms, briefing centres, training rooms, auditoriums, 3D, virtual reality (VR), and movie theatres. Some of their equipment has been used by world-class organizations such as AT&T’s Global Network Operations Centre in Bedminster, New Jersey, Deutsche Telekom, and Shenzhen Telecom. With expertise in professional projection systems since 1979 and film projection dating back to 1929, Christie along with its network of international partners has installed more than 25,000 projectors around the world.

In Canada, there are four digital cinema theatres—three in Ontario (Oakville, Waterloo, and Woodbrige) and one in Vancouver. The Oakville theatre and the Waterloo Galaxy have Christie’s DCP-H projector model and Vancouver has their digital cinema projector.

In September 2001, Waterloo’s Galaxy Cinema hosted a football game between the universities of Waterloo and McMaster. The players were on McMaster’s field in Hamilton and the game was broadcast via satellite to the Waterloo Galaxy. The game was projected onto the screen using Christie’s equipment. UW supporters “came in team sweaters and faces painted and they behaved like they were in the stadium.”

The company’s focus is on niche markets, which include entertainment (digital cinema), virtual reality and simulation, and control rooms. “The digital cinema opportunity is the biggest opportunity, but also the riskiest,” says Remers. “When digital cinema does roll out, it will be a billion-dollar opportunity that we intend to fully exploit.”

A number of UW graduates who are key individuals in the company are helping Christie prepare for that opportunity. Chief scientist Terry Schmidt (BASc ‘72 Electrical Engineering) is responsible for Electrohome...
projection, which came into being 22 years ago when Schmidt took a CRT home theatre projector and made it work with one of the first IBM desktops to display data images. “This was a first at the time,” says Remers.

Bob Rushby (BA ’72 Electrical Engineering) is the company’s vice-president of engineering, and Rocco Fondacaro (BA ’77 Psychology; MA ’78, PhD ’82, University of Western Ontario) is the vice-president of marketing. The bulk of the marketing is done in Kitchener by Fondacaro, and although he reports to Remers’ counterpart in the U.S., he remains very closely allied with the engineering group. Remers noted that Fondacaro had worked with him at Nortel. Kevin Elop (BA ’89 Accounting, MAcc ’89) is their chief financial officer, and Dorina Belu (BA ’92 English, MA ’94 English) is the manager of public relations. Christie has hired numerous UW graduates from Engineering (Electrical, Software, and Mechanical) in other roles, as well as Physics grads for their optic group.

The company has a strong connection with UW. Besides hiring graduates in key roles, this past year Christie contributed $10,000 to the establishment of the Photonics course at UW. The company also supports UW’s co-operative education program by hiring four to five co-op students per year. “We find them to be excellent extensions of our engineering team,” says Remers.

Born in Red Lake, a small gold mining town in northern Ontario, Remers now lives in Kitchener with his wife Susan, two sons (Tyson and Owen), and daughter Elena. He travels back and forth on a regular basis (Tyson and Owen), and daughter Elena. He travels back and forth on a regular basis between the officer in Kitchener and the California office.

2002 Alumni Achievement Award

Nationally acclaimed real estate agent was an English graduate student at Waterloo

Mary Bales is the fifth recipient of the Faculty of Arts Alumni Achievement Award. The award recognizes Waterloo Arts alumni who have made outstanding contributions to their professional field and/or in community and public service.

Born and raised in Lowell, Indiana, Mary pursued undergraduate studies in science and engineering at Purdue University, and English and technical writing at New Mexico State University (BA 1969). She worked in the research laboratories for Chemagro in Kansas City before moving to Ontario. Mary did graduate studies in English at the University of Waterloo (MA 1972 and MPhil 1973), with emphasis on early Renaissance poetry. She continued her graduate studies at the University of Toronto and the Medieval Institute before commencing a career in real estate in 1974.

Mary enjoys a successful real estate career with Coldwell Banker Peter Benninger Realty, where she focuses on residential sales, new house design, condominium development, and marketing. Her success is recognized annually for being one of the “outstanding agents” nationally, and in some years as being the “top agent” for Coldwell Banker (including the year 2000). She has also received the Coldwell Banker national award for humanitarian service. In addition to this accomplishment, she has managed to provide attentive, personalized service to literally hundreds of individuals and families—many of them UW employees.

“Countless students, faculty, and staff members here at Waterloo, my husband and I among them, have stories of how Mary found the ‘perfect place’ for them to live,” says Barbara Bulman-Fleming, an associate professor in Psychology.

Mary has an impressive record of volunteer activities in the Kitchener-Waterloo community. She has been a committed supporter and volunteer of the local YWCA, serving on its board from 1993 to 2001 and in many other capacities, including chair of the Freedom Fund Campaign, which raised nearly a million dollars for the organization; also as a member of the Executive Committee, chair of the Resource Development Coordinating Committee, and vice-president. She has been a leader in fundraising activities for the United Way, chairing their “Leadership Giving” Committee, and its Endowment Fund Committee, as well as serving on its board of directors. She was also a member of the Board of Directors of Grand River Hospital (1998 - 2001), where she chaired the Governance and Strategic Planning Committee. Recently, Mary spearheaded the creation of the Heartwood Place Foundation, a charitable organization dedicated to providing “safe, affordable, and adequate housing” in downtown Kitchener.

Mary’s UW involvement has been extensive. In the early ’90s, she was a member of the National Alumni Council and chaired its Program Committee. She also served as a member of the Board of Governors for two terms, 1994 - 1997 and 1997 - 2000. During her time on the board, she served on the Board Executive, Senior Officers’ Evaluation and Compensation Committee, and Building and Properties Committee. She also served on the 1999 Presidential Nominating Committee and on one of the working groups of the Commission on Institutional Planning. Currently, she is the chair of the Arts Committee for the UW Fifth Decade campaign. Mary has been a solid financial supporter of the Faculty of Arts since 1984. She has also committed to a generous gift for UW Arts in her estate plans.

A century home, extensive gardens, two Afghan hounds, and two “street” cats keep Mary sane and sensible, and good friends and church activities fill the remaining spots on her weekly calendar.

We want your Nominations

Arts & Letters is seeking nominations for the 2003 Alumni Achievement Award. This award recognizes Waterloo Arts alumni who have made outstanding contributions to their professional field and/or in community and public service. For more information, contact Christine Woods at 519-888-4567, ext. 2119, or cwoods@watarts.uwaterloo.ca.

The nomination deadline is April 30, 2003.
Student Awards and Achievements

James Allard (English) was awarded a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) post-doctoral fellowship for research at the University of Toronto. He will be working on a project called “Talking Cures: Romantic patient narratives.” It examines the development of the idea of the surgical patient—how people were made to be subjects of the developing medical establishment and how they “assisted” in that process—in late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century letters, medical records, and literary texts.

Andrew Hilton (Accounting), Whitney Hoth and Veronica Austen (English), and Tara Dunphy and Jennifer Schulenberg (Sociology) were awarded SSHRC doctoral fellowships.

Isabel Pederson and Diana Lobb (English) have received Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS) doctoral awards.

Several Arts graduate and undergraduate students won OGS awards: Scott Bandura, Alan Fok, Jasdeep Hansra, Karen Ho, Mark Jackson, Siddharth Jaishankar, Sandra Lau, Janey Law, Albert Leung, Lesley Luk, Ryan McGauley, Norbert Woo, Vincent Yeung, Yvonne Yiu, and Sovener So Man Yu (Accountancy); Brigit Hinnegan and Erin Foster (English); Kara Schmidt and Obeida Menchawi Pawal (French); Rudolf Michaeli, Elena Apostolova, Jane Buckingham, and Nathan Salionchuk (GSLL); and Fatima Camara, Jennifer Kayahara, Kara Granzow, Ivan Watkins, Lisa Gunderson, Jennifer Schulenberg, Tara Dunphy, Thomas Perks, and Stephen Svenson (Sociology).

Two Classical Studies students excelled at the recent National Sight Translation Competitions. Held under the auspices of the Classical Association of Canada, the competitions require students to provide accurate and idiomatic translations of previously unseen Greek and Latin passages. In the Senior Undergraduate Latin test, Christopher Gordon earned second prize, while Christine McGillis earned third prize in the Senior Undergraduate Greek competition. Christopher Gordon also won the Margaret H. Thomson Prize for placing third in the National Greek Sight Translation Contest. Helped by the weekly coaching sessions of Professor George Robertson of the Classical Studies department, the Waterloo students demonstrated the high level of language skills that is required to succeed in these competitions.

Two Psychology graduate students, Koreen Clements and Catherine Spielmacher, received poster awards at Waterloo’s second annual Graduate Student Research Conference.

UW graduates took top places in the fall 2001 round of the accounting profession’s Uniform Final Examinations (UFEs). Angela Kellett (MAcc ’01) won the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants gold medal and Edmund Gunn prize, as well as the Ontario Institute’s gold medal. Anthony Bellomo (MAcc ’01) placed eighth in Canada and tied for fifth in Ontario. Also on the Ontario Honour Roll were Scott Denny, Lisa Ligori, and Martin Hengeveld, all MAcc ’01 grads.

Perin Ruttonsha, an Applied Studies Co-op/Fine Arts/Cultural Management student, was named one of the two top UW Co-op Students of the Year for 2001. Ruttonsha is congratulated by Bruce Lumsden, director of Co-operative Education & Career Services.

Lisa Ligori (MAcc ’01) received the UW-wide Governor General’s Silver Medal for the highest marks in an MA program, plus the Accounting Alumni Gold Medal at the 2001 fall convocation.

CALL FOR ENTRIES FOR THE SIXTH ANNUAL FINE ARTS MINIATURE SHOW AND SALE

Department of Fine Arts, UW
Sale begins Friday, November 29th, from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Every year hundreds of artists, alumni, colleagues, friends, and patrons participate in this fabulous event.

For more information on how you can contribute to the show, please contact Jean Stevenson at 519-888-4567, ext. 2596, email jesteven@uwaterloo.ca or Lesley Hartley at 519-888-4567, ext. 6923, email lhartley@uwaterloo.ca.

Deadline for receipt of work in the Department of Fine Arts is November 13, 2002.
Hire a Co-op Student

Could you or someone you know give an Arts student the opportunity to put their education to work for your benefit?

As the largest program of its kind in Canada, co-op is a vital and working part of the Faculty of Arts. The Waterloo co-op experience combines professional practice with educational growth, which in turn attracts high-calibre students keen to make the most of this unique career advantage. Currently, over 1,200 Arts students and the organizations they work for are already benefitting from the co-op program at Waterloo.

Waterloo’s co-operative education program is constantly on the lookout for new employment opportunities for these talented students. For more information on how you can employ a co-op student, please contact:

Karalee Clerk
Co-operative Education & Career Services
University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON N2L 3G1
Phone: 519-888-4026, ext. 2286
Fax: 519-746-6019
e-mail: caclerk@uwaterloo.ca

Co-op student Lindsey Love Forester (Applied Studies/Social Development Studies/International Trade Specialization) was the editor of both the UW Recruiter newsletter for employers of UW students and grads, and the Inside sCo-op student e-newsletter while on a work term with Co-operative Education & Career Services in the winter 2002 term. Lindsey recently participated in the junior trade mission to Asia, and is working for the federal government in Ottawa for her fall 2002 work term.
ELIZABETH SMIDT: Arts Student Fundraiser

Interview by Debra McGonegal

Elizabeth Smidt, a fourth-year Honours History student at the University of Waterloo, works part-time for the Office of Development as a student caller. Elizabeth has successfully raised over $250,000 calling alumni and asking for their support of their alma mater towards the Annual Fund. Elizabeth shared her perspectives on the University of Waterloo, her education, and philosophy on giving.

What future do you see for Arts at UW?

Arts at UW has a very promising future. With UW’s reputation and the great professors that we have, the Faculty of Arts is respected and viewed as an important asset to UW.

What makes a successful student caller?

You have to believe in the school and the cause. As students, we understand the importance of fundraising because we see how much influence our alumni have when they donate to the school.

How can the Faculty of Arts connect better with their alumni?

Try to keep alumni updated on ALL that’s new in the Faculty of Arts. The more contact the better. It makes alumni feel closer to their alma mater. If they have a close relationship with the school, they enjoy hearing from student callers more.

What has been the most interesting and what do you enjoy most about your job?

It is always great talking to someone who had the same career goals and aspirations as myself. They can give some really great advice. I like hearing about their experiences at UW and comparing mine with theirs.

How do you feel about giving back to and supporting your alma mater?

UW has an amazing reputation and has given me a great education. It is important to maintain that reputation and the value of my degree. Tuition is constantly increasing and it is important to help out future students, as we were helped by previous alumni.

Any advice or insights for UW students and new grads?

Keep in close relationship with UW. Some of the best years of your lives were spent here so … remember them.

SCHOLARSHIPS

In Memoriam

Fine Arts Memorial Award

Friends and family of Vern Hacking have established a scholarship in his memory. Hacking was a mature student and an enthusiastic supporter of the Fine Arts department. The scholarship is awarded annually to a Fine Arts undergraduate student.

Anyone wishing to contribute directly to endowment funds, please contact the Office of Development at 519-888-4567, ext. 2036.
2002 ARTS ALUMNI ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The following ten students are this year’s recipients of the Arts Alumni Entrance Scholarship. The scholarship is valued at up to $3,000 with $2,000 payable in first year and an additional $1,000 payable in second year providing the student achieves an overall average of 83 percent. This year’s recipients had admission averages ranging from 93.5 to 94.7 percent.

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>High School</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lauren Adams</td>
<td>Ridgeway &amp; Crystal Beach High School</td>
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<td>Jillian Banfield</td>
<td>Park View Education Centre</td>
<td>Petite Riviere, Nova Scotia</td>
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<td>Liane Dron</td>
<td>Haliburton Highlands Secondary School</td>
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<td>Jadwiga Drozd</td>
<td>Don Bosco Catholic Secondary School</td>
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<td>Natalie Franklin</td>
<td>Anderson Collegiate &amp; Vocational Institute</td>
<td>Whitby, Ontario</td>
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<td>Anastasia Mandziuk</td>
<td>Cawthra Park Secondary School</td>
<td>Mississauga, Ontario</td>
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<td>Natalie Mathieson</td>
<td>St. David Catholic Secondary School</td>
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<td>Daniel Micak</td>
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<td>Deema Saleh</td>
<td>International School of Choueifat</td>
<td>Abu Dhabi/United Arab Emirates</td>
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<td>Meredith Webster</td>
<td>North Middlesex District High School</td>
<td>Ailsa Craig, Ontario</td>
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Faculty of Arts Web Pages Get a Facelift

In February 2002, the Faculty of Arts launched its updated web pages with the new look to match the University of Waterloo’s “gold standard.” The Faculty of Arts has adopted this gold standard in its new pages so there is continuity and familiarity of web pages for their web users. The new pages are more informative and easy to use, and are designed to address the diverse needs of their different audiences.

The Faculty’s primary audience is their prospective students. According to the latest ACUMEN Applicant Survey Report, a university’s web site is the second most important university information factor in influencing a university selection. To accommodate that, the new web pages have been designed with the prospective student in mind. The colour green was chosen to match the Faculty’s print publication colours so there is consistency between their print and web recruitment efforts. Links to their different entry-level programs, employment rates, admission requirements, and cool researchers are some of the more popular features.

For their current students, there are links to advisors, QUEST (the new online registration system), and the undergraduate calendar.

Arts alumni have their own area as well. Here you can check out upcoming events and find out what’s happening on campus, and now Arts & Letters (the Arts alumni newsletter) is available in a .pdf format.

Most Arts departments will adopt the new look by September 2002. To easily find your home department, type in the department name followed by “.uwaterloo.ca”. For example, french.uwaterloo.ca or english.uwaterloo.ca.

To check out the Faculty of Arts web pages, as well as the alumni link, please go to arts.uwaterloo.ca.

UW’s Jewish Studies Program will be the World Centre for the Friedberg Genizah Project

Paul Socken of the French Studies department has announced that the world centre for the Friedberg Genizah Project will be the Jewish Studies program of the University of Waterloo. Professor Jim Diamond (Joseph and Wolf Lebovic Chair of Jewish Studies, University of Waterloo) will be the director.

The Friedberg Genizah Project involves thousands of documents that date back a thousand years. “They were found in Cairo and are very precious,” says Socken. “They give scholars insight into Jewish and Islamic life of the times and will eventually prove to be more important than the Dead Sea Scrolls.”

Teams of scholars all over the world—at Jerusalem’s Hebrew University as well as at Cambridge and Princeton—are studying and analysing these documents. The results will eventually be digitized and published.

Socken notes that this is a breakthrough for Arts and Jewish Studies at Waterloo and will result in a Genizah journal, conference, and other developments.

For further information, email Jim Diamond at jdiamond@uwaterloo.ca or Paul Socken at psocken@uwaterloo.ca.
GOVERNOR-GENERAL’S SILVER MEDAL
Camille Andree Ruest (BA, Honours French Studies, French Teaching Specialization—Co-op) was presented with the Governor General’s Silver Medal at spring convocation. This medal is awarded to a student with the highest academic standing in an undergraduate program at UW. The Governor General of Canada awards three medals each year to recognize UW’s top three graduates.

ARTS ALUMNI GOLD MEDAL
Cristina Lucia Volpini (BA, Honours Classical Studies) was the winner of the Arts Alumni Gold Medal for the highest academic standing in the Faculty of Arts.

CLASSICAL STUDIES PROFESSOR HONOURED
Ken Lavigne (UW registrar) is shown here with Phyllis Young Forsyth (Classical Studies), who was awarded the status of distinguished professor emerita at spring convocation 2002.

2002 Valedictorian reflects on challenges and friendships
In her valedictory speech to the 2002 Arts graduating class, Tanya De Mello (BA, Honours Political Science and Economics, Applied Studies Co-op, Spanish minor) reflected on the challenges of university classes and the special friendships that were formed.

“This degree symbolizes more than just the classes,” De Mello said. “It represents sleepless nights for endless essays and assignments, somehow always due back to back. It symbolizes the dreaded mid-terms that at Waterloo seem to go for the entire term. It encompasses those months when we didn’t think we could make it through.”

De Mello went on to say that although the classes were at the very core of their education, “when I look back, what probably shaped our stays here most are moments when professors would share a part of their personal history, or the amazing conversations at two o’clock in the morning, and the incredible friendships we built through them. It’s the people and places that have shaped our lives. Remember to savour those moments,” she advised.

2002 DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARDS
The Distinguished Teacher Awards are presented each year at spring convocation “in recognition of a continued record of excellence in teaching at the University of Waterloo.” This year’s recipients were Thomas Yoder Neufeld (Religious Studies) and Richard Nutbrown (Political Science).

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST ALUMNI
913 undergraduate students and 72 graduate students received degrees at Waterloo’s spring convocation.
In February 2002, the School of Accountancy and UW’s new Centre for Business, Entrepreneurship and Technology (CBET) gratefully received an $85,000 contribution from the Certified Management Accountants of Ontario (CMA Canada-Ontario). This funding is going towards development of courses in management accounting, a proposed master’s degree program in performance measurement and management, and a market survey to assist in developing the master’s program and related offerings. CBET is headed by Howard Armitage, one of the School’s senior professors.

Gerhard Hauck (Drama and Speech Communication), who is a member of the Interaction Design Group of the Faculty of Arts, has been awarded $240,000 under the federal and provincial governments’ New Opportunities grant program. This award will provide the multi-point videoconferencing equipment required to research the intersection of theatre and new media technology. His equipment will complement the digital editing infrastructure awarded to Diana Denton (Drama and Speech Communication) and Andy McMurry (English) last year, and will be housed in the new Canadian Centre for Arts and Technology.

Kevin McGuirk (English) has won a Fulbright Scholarship to study the papers of American poet A.R. Ammons at Cornell University.

Michael Boehringer (Germanic and Slavic) was awarded a major SSHRC research grant for his work on Austrian author, Ferdinand von Saar (1833 - 1906). Boehringer will explore representations of gender roles and identities in the author’s works. Saar is often considered a writer who bridges the literary movements of Realism and Modernism.

The Germanic and Slavic department is pleased to announce that Zina Gimpelevich was inaugurated as president of the Belarusan Institute of Arts and Sciences in Canada.

The Germanic and Slavic Studies department was one of two inaugural recipients of a $25,000 grant from the Wes Graham Fund for innovation in computer-based learning technology. Under the leadership of Grit Liebscher and Mat Schulze, the grant is being used to design beginners’ German online courses for distance education students. The groundwork for this new departmental initiative was laid last year with the development of Russian 101 online under the direction of Zina Gimpelevich. The new courses are the first to use a program developed by a Canadian company which allows for oral interaction and feedback.

John English (History) has received a three-year SSHRC grant to assist him in writing a biography of Pierre Trudeau. The biography, which will have the co-operation of the Trudeau library executors, is to be published in two volumes by Knopf Canada and simultaneously in French and English. Recently, English, who is a former Kitchener Liberal MP and a Member of the Order of Canada, was also awarded a Kitchener Rotary Club honour for exemplifying “service above self.” The Honourary Paul Harris Fellow Recognition is Rotary’s acknowledgement of a person who has contributed greatly to the life of the community and the world.

Robert Prus (Sociology) was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Literature degree from his alma mater, Brandon University, in May 2002.
Anthropology

Beyond Waterloo
During their first year of returning to an independent department, anthropologists at Waterloo have undertaken a wide range of research activities.

Harriet Lyons spent her sabbatical leave finishing the book *Connexions: The history of anthropology and sexuality* that she has worked on with her husband Andrew Lyons, an anthropologist from Wilfrid Laurier University. Not one to rest on past accomplishments, she is already beginning the research for her next book on Victor Turner, a well known anthropological theorist.

Tom Abler continued work on his book focussed on Cornplanter, a Seneca chief from the 1700s who served as an ally to the British and Loyalists during the American Revolutionary War. As a result of this work, he was invited to give a lecture at the 25th anniversary of the Seneca Iroquois National Museum on the Allegany Reservation in New York State in August 2002.

A listing on the Arts Cool Researcher web site was a highlight this year for Robert Park whose work on Arctic archaeology is internationally respected. This summer he is planning to go to Iglulik to work on a pre-Dorset site, about 3,000 years old, which is earlier than his usual focus of Thule and Dorset cultures. A real excitement occurred when he recently unearthed a tiny ivory carving of a falcon with exquisite detailing. The function of these small figures is not clear, but they represent an extremely high level of artistic skill.

Maria Liston took a class of students to Rome in May for 2 1/2 weeks to study ancient and Imperial Rome. The curriculum included trips to Tarquenia to see 2,500-year-old painted Etruscan tombs, as well as to Pompei and Herculaneum. The 20 students enjoyed the trip very much (see the Classical Studies column for more details). Liston then continued to Crete to begin excavation of a Bronze Age site.

Anne Zeller was fortunate to be able to combine her invitation to teach Primate Behaviour in Florence with the class trip to Rome, and with a presentation at the Association of Primatologists of Italy meeting in Rome. She was also invited to lecture in Sicily and thus spent a very busy and productive time in the spring term.

Classical Studies

Seven Hills, 1,700 Years, Seventeen Days
Following two successful trips to Greece with UW Classics students (in 1998 and 2000), Maria Liston, a newly tenured associate professor, ventured into new territory this year. The destination was Italy, and the course was CLAS 390C: Roman Archaeology, though the simple title hardly does justice to this wide-ranging exploration of history and society from the Etruscans to the Byzantine period. After a few days of lectures in Waterloo, the group of 26 departed for two weeks in the Eternal City and its environs, interrupted by two days each in Naples and Paestum, allowing them to visit Pompeii (where Vesuvius, long overdue for an eruption, co-operated by remaining silent), and to see a little of Magna Graecia, the major area of early Greek colonization in Italy.

Liston, who did the lion’s share of the teaching, was assisted by three colleagues from the Department of Classical Studies (Sheila Ager, Robert Porter, and George Robertson), and an interdisciplinary flavour was lent by some guest speakers: Nancy Cook (King College, Bristol, Tennessee) lectured on Roman construction techniques, Wendy Rodgers (Guelph University Library) on ancient libraries, and Anne Zeller (UW Anthropology) on ancient dining, a particularly relevant subject in a land of culinary delights. The students came not only from UW Classical Studies majors (both on-campus and via Distance Education) and from their Classical neighbours at Wilfrid Laurier University, but also from UW Medieval Studies and even from Geography, testifying to the appeal that the ancient world still holds—one student was so inspired by the land of Virgil and Horace that she composed her journal in verse (thus lightening the evenings that Liston spent reading and grading all the class’s notes and observations). For their enjoyably edifying experience, everyone is most grateful to Professor Liston, *sine qua non*. 

A tiny carved falcon made by the people of the Dorset culture, somewhere between 1,200 and 1,000 years ago. It is thought to have been part of the paraphernalia of a Dorset shaman. It was discovered in Bathurst Island in the High Arctic.

Maria Liston, standing, left, gives a lecture to CLAS 390C students in the Roman Forum.
Drama and Speech Communication

Honours Speech Communication Program Launched
Speech Communication alumni will be pleased to know that their long-standing wish for an honours program in Speech Communication has been realized. September 2002 will see the department’s students registering in four new academic plans, which complement their already existing three- and four-year general plans: a four-year honours plan, an honours co-op plan, an honours Arts and Business plan, and a joint honours plan. These changes bring an even higher profile for the discipline of Speech Communication: the University of Waterloo knows it. Three alumni work on campus to promote Arts and UW: Christine Woods, Coordinator, Arts Special Programs/Arts Alumni; Astra Goodhue, Recruitment, Liaison, and Publications Officer for Arts; and Alexandra Lippert, Development Officer, Faculty of Math.

High School Pre-performance Seminars
On the Drama side of the department, the response to their high school pre-performance seminars, launched last year with *The Merchant of Venice*, has been so successful that they expanded the program this year. Prior to the two major productions in the Theatre of the Arts, *Twelfth Night* and *The Crucible Project*, high school students listened to short talks by faculty members from History, English, Germanic and Slavic Studies, and Drama, followed by a question and answer period. Six hundred and seventy-five teachers and students attended these sessions.

Silversides Theatre Artists Series
Mrs. Bessie Silversides presented the department with an additional $2,500 to support the annual Silversides Theatre Artists Series, an interview series held in the UW Bookstore each November. The theatre artist for 2001 was Governor General’s, Dora, and Chalmers award-winning Canadian playwright, Djanet Sears.

Economics

A Professor’s Journey to the West Bank
Professor Fadle Naqib was asked by the United Nation Development Program (UNDP) to visit the West Bank and conduct research examining the situation of the Palestinian economy after more than a year of the Palestinian uprising (Al-Aqsa Intifada). Naqib arrived in Ramallah on January 22, 2002, and started work at the Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute (MAS). His work went smoothly, on the whole, until the Israeli army invaded...
Ramallah and imposed total curfew on March 29th. Naqib was confined to his hotel for eight days. On the afternoon of April 5th, the curfew was lifted for three hours and Naqib managed to leave Ramallah and reach Jerusalem. In the UNDP Jerusalem office he continued his work and returned to Canada on April 22nd. His research shows that a year and a half of violence has left the Palestinian economy in a shambles. A sharp increase in unemployment, a drastic decline in trade, an unprecedented spread of poverty, and an overall condition usually associated with economies under siege. The last Israeli invasion has greatly worsened the situation. Most Palestinian infrastructure has been damaged, most ministries ransacked, and production and trade stopped for weeks. Initial estimates of the damages have reached billions of dollars. Naqib’s study will be published by MAS in the fall.

Department Update
Over the past year, the Economics department has been busy with both the undergraduate and graduate academic program reviews. The department is also looking into the possibility of introducing a PhD program.

English

Off-campus Retreat
On February 13, 2002, the English department held its first off-campus retreat. All faculty members gathered at the Elora Inn for the day. The purpose of the retreat was to articulate, as a group, the departmental mission or goals, an articulation that they will use for the two major departmental reviews currently under way. These reviews, one graduate, the other undergraduate, both of which must take place at seven year intervals in all departments, were also an opportunity for the department to define itself after a decade of constant change.

One major change has been in their faculty complement. Eleven of the 19 current faculty members joined the department after 1996. Ten faculty members have retired and three have resigned to take positions elsewhere since 1996. The retreat was an opportunity for continuing members and new people to share their research and to talk about the goals their research and teaching have in common. The morning was given over to presentations by faculty members about their research. John North, for example, who has been with the department since 1968, the last member of the original English complement, gave a presentation about his bibliographies of nineteenth-century periodicals. Michael MacDonald, who joined the department this year, reported on his work in progress on the history of rhetoric and sophistry. The afternoon was given over to group work, as members worked to define the areas of interest they have in common. The groups identified four areas that they see themselves developing in both their research and teaching: skills in reading and writing in all sorts of media, what they call advanced literacies; historical knowledge, an extended focus not only on the history of the English language and its literatures, but on the history of all forms of communication; technology in a humanist context, the understanding that the digital revolution in communication is a humanist enterprise as well; and critical humanism, the advancement of the traditional humanist enterprise in an age of theory and technology.

All in all, the retreat was a great success.

Fine Arts

Field Trips and Courses Abroad
Over the years, field trips and courses abroad have been important features of the Fine Arts program. Last fall, for example, Fine Arts students travelled by bus to Chicago, where they spent three days touring public and private art galleries, visiting artists’ studios and an important print workshop, and learning about Chicago’s rich architectural heritage. In other years, New York City, Pittsburgh, and Montreal/Ottawa have been destinations. These trips are open to all Fine Arts students, and costs are kept to a minimum to encourage maximum participation.

Organizers look for hotels that are both well located and cheap, which has sometimes resulted in interesting experiences. Those who were lodged in the fabled (but slightly shabby) Chelsea Hotel on one of their New York excursions were surprised to discover that the kindly old gent in the slippers (with whom they chatted so comfortably in the lobby) was the renowned American composer, Virgil Thomson. For other reasons, few who stayed at the Harrison Hotel during one of their Chicago trips will have forgotten that venue—the top four floors were being vigorously demolished while they were in residence! This year, their hotel in Chicago was the one used by guests of the Jerry Springer Show.

From time to time, Fine Arts also offers courses abroad. These have given students the extraordinary opportunity of studying art history and drawing in England (in 1999, with Joan Coutu and Don MacKay) and France (often, in the 1980s with Virgil Burnett and Tony Urquhart), drawing in India and in the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico (with Don MacKay on several occasions), and film in London and Paris (with Jan Uhde). Joan Coutu and Jane Buyers are currently planning a combined drawing and art history course in Venice, Italy, in the fall of 2003.

These courses and field trips are not only memorable, but they also offer important opportunities to experience cultural monuments and artistic masterpieces outside the lecture hall, in the contexts of the cultures in which they were created.

Emily Bickell (BA ’98 Fine Arts) drawing on a course abroad in the Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico.
French Studies

29th Annual UW French Contest
A total of 184 students from 12 school districts in southwestern Ontario participated in the 29th annual UW French Contest, sponsored by the Department of French Studies. The first-place winner was Christopher Somerville, a student of Suzanne Schnarr (MA ’94, French) from St. John’s-Kilmarnock in Breslau, Ontario. The French Studies department is very grateful to the George and Helen Vari Foundation of Toronto, and to corporate, institutional, and individual sponsors for their kind support of more than $7,500 in prizes, including the first prize, a two-week trip to France donated by Red Leaf Student Programs/Tours Inc. For more information on the contest, contact Carol O’Connor at coconnor@uwaterloo.ca.

Donor Recognition
French Studies sincerely thanks Jeanne Raab and her family for their support of the department’s Assistant Program which allows them to participate in an assistant(e) exchange with the governments of France and Ontario. Fabienne Guenard will be coming to the department in September 2002, and Jennifer Kelly will be working in France this year at a lycée.

French Studies is also grateful for the financial support from Power Corporation that has enabled the department to offer scholarships to applicants from all over the world coming into their MA program.

The department gratefully acknowledges the support from all their alumni and their families who help support programs, awards, and students. Without their support the department’s student awards would be considerably smaller, and the reference materials in ML 355 would not be as extensive as it stands. Thank you!

Germanic and Slavic Studies

Visit of Bundestagspräsident Wolfgang Thierse
In April, the Germanic and Slavic Studies department hosted the president of the German Bundestag (parliament), Wolfgang Thierse, and Consul General Dr. Ulrich Hochschild. Mr. Thierse is the second-highest ranking political official in the German government. Presidents of local German clubs and major organizations joined him and department faculty members in the Dana Porter library special collections archive for relaxed conversation over “Kaffee und Kuchen.”

Pushkin at Waterloo
In March, on the occasion of his bicentenary, the Slavic section sponsored an exhibition of reproductions from the Russian Embassy, Ottawa, documenting the life, times, and writings of the celebrated Russian poet, Aleksandr Sergeevich Pushkin. All Slavic faculty and several students made presentations on the noted author and read his poetry. Culture and Education Attaché Valery Nazarenko spoke on “Russian-Canadian Relations Today” and announced scholarships for graduate students to study in Russia.

Provincial German Contest
Following their annual hosting of the regional German Contest, Mat Schulze and colleagues welcomed the best German students from across Ontario for the provincial finals in May 2002. Trips to Germany and the use of a BMW were among the many grand prizes. Earlier in April, well over 350 high school students from local schools and their teachers participated in German-language activities in the Theatre of the Arts on German Day.

Dürrenmatt’s Besuch der alten Dame Performed by Students and Faculty
After months of rehearsal, more than 30 students and faculty joined to perform Friedrich Dürrenmatt’s modern classic (in German). Co-directors/producers Diana Killinger (guest lecturer) and graduate student Lori Heffner also performed, Lori in the lead female role, with graduate student Bernd Hartmann as her male counterpart. Audience members came from far and wide to two April performances in the Theatre of the Arts. The event was sponsored in part by the Swiss Consul General.

German professor James Skidmore shows his talent.
History

Tri-University Graduate Program
In the first year of the new MA program, 14 students have accepted History’s invitation to begin studies at UW in the fall term, joining those in their PhD program to become part of the Tri-University Graduate Program in History. A total of 58 applications were received for the new MA program. Students will receive a University of Waterloo degree, but they also share in the richness and enhanced program and the fellowship of a larger cohort of students with whom they will meet in seminars and in Tri-University gatherings.

The Tri-University Program is housed at the University of Waterloo from 2001 to 2004. The current director of the program, Kenneth McLaughlin, is on sabbatical as of July 2002. James Walker will be acting director during that time.

New Centre to Study International Affairs
John English, who is currently on leave from the History department, is executive director of the new Centre for International Governance Innovation that is being established in Waterloo. The Centre has purchased the former Seagram Museum. In addition to the Centre’s activities, there will be a museum exhibit that will focus on the history of industry and technology in Waterloo Region. The Centre itself will begin its work in the fall and will conduct research, organize workshops, and work with the relevant university departments.

History Student Lands a Six-figure U.S. Deal With American Publisher
Seventeen years of research has landed archaeologist and History PhD candidate, Karolyn Smardz, a low-six-figure U.S. deal with American publisher Farrar, Straus and Giroux for her book Goin’to Freedom Land. Smardz will write about the true story of American fugitive slaves Thornton and Lucie Blackburn, who settled in Canada in 1834. Serious about doing justice to the story, Smardz is currently finishing a doctoral program in history at UW—“so I could become a better historian before I [finished] the book,” she says. She is expected to complete the manuscript by fall 2003.

Adapted from Quill and Quire, an electronic newsletter

Philosophy

The Churchill Humphrey and Alex P. Humphrey Professorship in Feminist Philosophy
The Churchill Humphrey and Alex P. Humphrey Professorship in Feminist Philosophy was established with an endowment from Anne Minas, a professor of Philosophy, who worked at UW from September 1966, until her retirement in February 2002. The Professorship is named in memory of her grandfather, Churchill Humphrey, and her father, Alex P. Humphrey. It is a one-term appointment each year, to be filled by senior scholars in the Feminist Philosophy area. Dr. Christine Overall, distinguished scholar in Women’s Studies, will be the first holder of this position for the 2003 spring term.

Jan Narveson Named a Member of the Order of Canada
Philosophy professor Jan Narveson has been named a Member of the Order of Canada, one of the country’s highest honours. Narveson, also known as the UW Gazette’s “Cecilia” columnist on music, has been a faculty member at Waterloo since 1963. Says the Governor General’s citation for Jan F. Narveson, OC: “His scholarly work has been the impetus for informed national and international debate on social issues. Professor of Philosophy at the University of Waterloo for three decades, he has written extensively on a broad range of subjects including ethics in business. He enjoys a reputation for excellence and, since joining the University’s Centre for Accounting Ethics, has imparted to his students the importance of adhering to the highest professional standards. A staunch supporter of the region’s cultural institutions, he founded the Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Music Society and supports the community’s orchestra, choir, and symphony.”

Taken from the UW Daily Bulletin

Political Science

Political Science Student Wins Rhodes Scholarship
Mark Schaan (BA ’02, Political Science) has been selected as this year’s Rhodes Scholar from Manitoba, his home province. He begins his Master of Philosophy studies in comparative social policy at Oxford this fall.

In a recent interview, Schaan had this to say about winning the Rhodes Scholarship: “Being selected as a Rhodes Scholar was probably my most significant achievement to date. I am pleased because Rhodes is not
Religious Studies

Studying Religion and Ethnicity in Canada

It has been a productive and exciting year for many of the Religious Studies faculty members. Michael Higgins, for example, found his book with Douglas Letson, Power and Peril: The Catholic church at the crossroads on the Maclean’s bestseller list, and David Seljak received $40,000 to examine the complicated relationship of religion and ethnicity in six minority religious traditions: Judaism, Hinduism, Sikhism, Buddhism, Islam, and Chinese religions (i.e., folk religion, Buddhism, Confucianism, and Daoism).

Canada is officially a multicultural society, Seljak notes, but government agencies, schools, and other institutions have trouble including religion as part of their definition of culture. “One frustrated employee of Multiculturalism Canada recently told me that every time he tries to tell his superiors that religion is essential to the identity of the cultural groups they want to protect, he is met with the same chorus: ‘We can’t talk about religion because there is a separation between church and state,’” Seljak says. “The trouble is, immigrants from many parts of the world identify themselves as Hindus, Sikhs, Muslims, etc. The church, synagogue, mosque, and temple are important meeting places, anchoring the identity of these ethnic communities,” he says. “How can anyone talk about pluralism and multiculturalism in Canada without talking about religion?”

With funding from the Centre for the Study of Religion and Society, Seljak has been meeting with prominent academics, writers, lawyers, political leaders, and scientists from around the world. “How can anyone talk about pluralism and multiculturalism in Canada without talking about religion?”

Sociology

South-Western Ontario Research Data Centre

December 7, 2001, marked the opening of a new university research centre intended to advance Canadian social policy analysis and help train a new generation of sophisticated policy researchers. The South-Western Ontario Research Data Centre is one of nine research centres recently opened on Canadian university campuses in connection with the Canadian Initiative on Social Statistics, a joint venture of Statistics Canada and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) to encourage research and training in the analysis of complex, longitudinal social data. The Waterloo Research Data Centre is co-directed by John Goyder and Keith Warriner of the Sociology department, and is staffed by a full-time Statistics Canada employee, Dr. Patricia Newcombe-Welch, who is also a graduate of Waterloo’s Statistics and Actuarial Science program. The Centre’s construction was covered by a grant through the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) and its operating costs are being met by contributions from UW and five university partners: Guelph, Wilfrid Laurier, Western Ontario, Windsor, and Brock.

Each of the nine Canadian research data centres serves as a secure research site for the purpose of allowing researchers access to the highly confidential “micro” longitudinal data sets collected by Statistics Canada. These surveys—among them the National Population Health Survey (NPHS), the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth (NLSCY), and the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID)—are drawn from samples of thousands of Canadians who are tracked and re-surveyed every two to five years. The ability to directly monitor changes in the lives of individual Canadians in terms of such things as health, child to adult adjustments, and careers and earnings is of tremendous benefit for helping to understand Canadian society and for formulating new social policy initiatives. The nature of the data also mean that it is vitally important that the privacy of the individuals who have participated in the surveys be protected, and for this reason each research data centre is a secure installation in which only authorized projects undertaken by researchers who have received security clearance and sworn an oath of confidentiality are allowed. In addition to being an important new source for social science and policy research, the research data centre program will contribute to graduate student research while helping to train the next generation of sophisticated social data analysts required as university and government researchers.
Spanish and Latin American Studies

UW Portuguese Pride and Heritage Campaign Launched

The Spanish department has great reasons to be happy these days. In January 2002, the department launched the UW Portuguese Pride and Heritage Campaign in order to raise funds to preserve the teaching of the Portuguese language at the University of Waterloo. The campaign combined the University’s and the Kitchener-Waterloo-Cambridge communities’ interests in Portuguese language, culture, and civilization.

The Steering Committee, chaired by Mariela A. Gutiérrez, chair of Spanish, consisted of Emanuel Carvalho, associate dean of Arts Special Programs; Fatima Mota, Portuguese lecturer in the department; Victor Coelho, treasurer of the Waterloo Region Portuguese Business and Professionals Association; and Daniella Mota, a student in the department.

The theme of the campaign championed Portuguese as a thriving language in the Kitchener-Waterloo-Cambridge area. The campaign aimed to encourage the youth of Portuguese heritage to maintain their language and traditions, therefore encouraging other members of society to learn and study Portuguese as well. From the onset, the Steering Committee actively worked towards a goal of $5,000 to ensure continuation of the UW course offering of Introduction to Portuguese 102. Fundraising dinner events, raffles, church collections, abundant letters, and many telephone calls made an intrinsic part of the overwhelming success of the campaign. No doubt, the results were fabulous since the project reached the set goal in just under three months. The effort deployed by such a dedicated group of UW Arts professors and students and the members of the Portuguese community in the Region of Waterloo is an incredible testament to the vision of the Department of Spanish and Latin American Studies and the Portuguese community itself and their eagerness to support, encourage, and revitalize the Portuguese language in the region, thus keeping the culture alive, both in the academic setting and the community. Congratulations!

Department Updates

Last November, Mariela A. Gutiérrez, chair of Spanish, was awarded membership in the celebrated literary association PEN CLUB INTERNATIONAL (Affiliated Cuban Letters) for her twenty-two years of outstanding research on Cuban writer Lydia Cabrera’s opus. Also, Gutiérrez is the first elected vice-president of the newly formed international Cuban literary association Con Cuba en la Distancia, based in Spain. In May 2002, she was elected to the UW Senate as the Arts Faculty representative.

María del Carmen Sillato has been elected president of the Canadian Association of Hispanists.
'68 In November 2001, Bill Bryce (BA History, MA ’70 History) was appointed to the position of director of education at the Thames Valley District School Board, which has over 85,000 students and 8,000 employees.

'70 Rev. Frank X. Reitzel (MPhil English) has retired from active ministry and is “entering upon a sort of seventh career.” He writes: “After graduating from UW in 1970, I had the good fortune to enter the PhD program in the School of Divinity at the University of Chicago. That was followed by an appointment to the University of Calgary as chaplain and teaching in the religious studies department. In the 1980’s, I accepted a similar appointment at my first alma mater, the University of Western Ontario. They were exciting and great learning years.” In 1982, Rev. Reitzel left the academic fields and accepted his first posting as pastor/parish priest at St. Francis Church in Kitchener. In 1988, he was assigned as pastor to St. Patrick Church in Bermuda. In 2001, he returned to Canada to retire. “My new career (hope) is to do some writing, to preach mini-missions in parish churches, and to assist in parish ministry,” he says.

“This is retirement!” says Rev. Frank X. Reitzel.

'71 Jon McGill (BA English, BA ’72 History, MA ’73 History) writes to us from Baltimore, Maryland, where he is the headmaster of Gilman School, which has 1,000 boys and is located on 70 acres. After graduation, Jon went to England, where he taught for 15 years, then moved to Philadelphia, NY, before moving to Baltimore. During his time at Waterloo, Jon was a teaching assistant to History professor James Walker. “I invite any UW alumni who might be in town to give me a call,” he says. You can contact Jon at jmcgill@gilman.edu.

'73 Sister Pauline Girodat (BA) recently returned from a pilgrimage to Medjugorje (Bosnia). “What a wonderful, inspiring, faith experience!” she writes. “It is such a prayerful and holy place, and I feel blessed by being there.” Sister Girodat is currently doing pastoral work for the Diocese of Mackenzie in Fort Resolution, Northwest Territories.

'75 Anne Simnett (BA Anthropology) is currently working as a co-op teacher at Orangeville District Secondary School in the Upper Grand District School Board. Her eldest son Dale is doing an exchange year at Birmingham University in England and is in his third year of Mechanical Engineering (Co-op) at UW. “He is having a great time and travelling a lot,” says Anne.

'76 Hilda Young (BA History) and her husband Bruce Hanna (PhD ’81 Mechanical Engineering) recently moved to Petawawa from Pinawa, Manitoba. Bruce was transferred by Atomic Energy of Canada from Whiteshell to Chalk River. They lived in Manitoba for 21 years, but made frequent trips back to Ontario, especially Kitchener-Waterloo and the Ottawa area due to family. “So coming here is like coming home,” Hilda says. She did freelance writing in Manitoba and plans to continue in Ontario.

'77 Rick MacFarlane (BA Social Development Studies; BEd, MEd, MSW) is the vice-principal at Tilburn Area Public School in the Lambton Kent District School Board. He works with another UW graduate, Rod McKenzie (BA ’75 Recreation & Leisure Studies), who is the principal.

Janice Agnew (née Martindale, BA French) lives in St. Catharines with her husband Michael, their son Jordin (19), and daughter Jill (18) who is considering UW as an option next year. Janice says she would love to hear from Kerri Robinson. She can be reached at janiceagnew@home.com.

Vickie Van Dyke (BA Drama) had lots to tell us in her recent update to Arts & Letters. She writes: “I have enjoyed several colourful and creative careers over the past 20 years. Armed with an Honours BA in Drama from UW, I first performed in summer stock musical theatre before joining a touring pop group. Eventually I formed my own country rock band, giving me an opportunity to write and record many of my own compositions. After a brief stint on the business side of music, handling record promotions for an independent firm in Toronto, I segued into country radio. I was on 820 CHAM–Hamilton for ten years, in both the early morning and midday slots, and also pre-recorded a midday pop show for a sister station (The River) in London. I also found time to write for television (the Canadian Country Music Awards on CTV) and radio (numerous specials), and a biweekly newspaper column (Country Corner) for the Hamilton Spectator.” Most recently, Vickie performed as a singer/songwriter at the Canadian Netherlands Friendship Day event in Burlington, Ontario, in celebration of the 57th anniversary of the liberation of the Netherlands by the Canadian Armed Forces. Vickie now resides in Puslinch, Ontario, with her husband Barrie Drysdale (BA ’83 Mechanical Engineering) and eight-year-old son Sam. She has just completed her first (59,000-word) contemporary romance novel and a cabaret-style musical featuring the music of Rodgers and Hart, which she hopes to produce and perform in soon. She can currently be heard on Canada’s first smooth jazz radio station—WAVE 94.7 (Hamilton)—weekdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. Also available online at www.wave947.fm.

'79 Jodi Down (BA Psychology) lives in Oshawa where she is a teacher with the Durham Board of Education. Jodi wrote to us about Arts & Letters informing us of the new events in her life—“new home, new car, new dog.”

Cydnie Jacobs (BA Psychology) is kept busy with two half-time jobs with the York Region District School Board. As an articulation co-ordinator, it is her job to convince high school students that going to college before university will give them a solid skill base for employability. Secondly, she works as a communications officer with the Ontario Secondary School Teachers’ Federation—District 16. “I’m busy—as everyone else is these days!” writes Cyndie.

Jim Watson (BA Psychology) and his wife Cathy have lived in Kitchener-Waterloo since 1987, where they both work as Remax realtors. Jim says, “Our daughter Meghan is a grade 10 honours student and wants to attend UW in Psychology or
Sociology. Our son James is our next hopeful, currently finishing grade six.” You can contact Jim and Cathy at webmaster@homesbywatson.com.

Lois Gimbel (BA Religious Studies) completed her BEd at the University of Western Ontario after she graduated from UW. She has been teaching elementary school for 16 years—ten years in Oshawa and the last six years at Koinonia Christian Academy in Bloomingdale, Ontario. Lois lives in Elmira and can be contacted at lp_gimbel@yahoo.com.

‘80 “After 18 years of working as a law clerk, I decided to try something totally different and creative,” says Natalie Randall (née Thomas, BA). “I registered in hairdressing school.” She is now a licensed hairdresser and operates her own business, Kitchen Kuts in Kitchener.

‘81 If you ask Marian J. Whitfield (BA Sociology) what’s great in her life, this is what she will say: “My first great-grandchildren! Others in the class notes write of ‘children,’ but I’ve reached the time of life where it’s ‘great.’ Never thought it would happen, as the grandchildren are achieving professionals and very career-oriented.” Marian is a retired home economics/family studies teacher and lives in Listowel, Ontario.

‘82 Bettadalli C. Neelakanta (MA Economics; PhD ’87 Economics, University of Mysore) writes to us from India, where he is a dedicated consumer researcher.

As professor and head of the economics department at the JSS Institutions for Women, he attributes his interest in the field of consumerism to Economics professor Robert Kerton. Bettadalli tells us that he would love to revisit Waterloo. “My student days in Waterloo are still green in my mind. I used to spend much of my time in the library, which is fantastic.” He also served as a teaching assistant at UW during 1981–1982.

‘83 Susan Mach (BA Psychology) and husband Cameron Grassweller (BA ’84 Economics) had their second child in June 2000. Susan says, “Baby Mara is the long-awaited sister for Mallory, who is almost 10. We’ve been back in Waterloo for 11 years and it’s a great place to raise a family. We are both enjoying our careers, as well.” Susan is a dental hygienist and Cameron is a sales manager with CTV–CKCO TV.

‘84 As a self-employed artist, Michelle Matthews (BA Fine Arts) has convinced her “Mathie” friend that ‘Arties’ turn out all right after all!” Michelle writes: “Since I graduated I’ve been blessed with opportunities to work in many different creative environments. In 1985, I studied computer graphics at Sheridan College (to prove to a Mathie friend what an Artsie can do with a computer!). Then I worked for three years at the Globe & Mail followed by seven years in British Columbia as an art director at an ad agency and production artist for a community newspaper. I returned to Ontario to manage a weekly newspaper in Creemore for three years, but never stopped painting and illustrating. I’m now self-employed, painting and exhibiting full-time, living in a lovely cottage with a studio on the shore of Georgian Bay. I also teach art to adults and children year-round. Every day there’s something new in my life!”

‘85 Scott Grills (MA Sociology) received his PhD from McMaster University in 1989 and accepted a faculty position at Augustana University College in Alberta. From 1998 to 2000, he served as the president of the Confederation of Alberta Faculty Associations, and is currently the dean of arts at Brandon University. He lives in Brandon with his wife Shellagh and their three children, Matthew (15), Samanta (12), and Nathan (7).

‘86 Patricia Boyle (BA Psychology) received her master’s degree in information studies from McGill University in 1995. Patricia is a technical writer in the IT department at Abitibi–Consolidated in Montreal. She is also studying for a BPA in criminal justice at Athabasca University.

‘87 “I will display the sticker proudly!” says Florence Thomlison (BA), a retired University of Waterloo staff member of services for disabilities, referring to the UW Arts Grad sticker that she received. Florence writes: “I am still an avid golfer and curler, and besides my long-time hobbies of needlepoint and gardening, I have recently taken up watercolour painting (more enthusiasm than talent!). My husband and I love hiking, and this year we hiked all over New Zealand (wonderful country) and then ‘rested’ in Tahiti!!”

‘88 Kelly Young (née Caruso, BA English) informed Arts & Letters that she hasn’t sent an update since graduation “because there wasn’t much to update. But, finally, here’s some news,” she says. “After 13 years of working part-time as a news correspondent for the Owen Sound Sun Times, I finally landed a full-time job doing something I love! I’m a reporter for the Kincardine News and all is well with the world. In that capacity, I meet and interview many interesting folk, even in this small corner of Ontario.” As well, Kelly keeps busy with community work. She coaches the Kincardine Kippers recreational swim team (www.geocities.com/Colosseum/Lodge/4091/), is the president of her local chapter of Beta Sigma Phi (www.geocities.com/Wellesley/5156/), and is a member of the Kincardine Theatre Guild. Kelly lives in Kincardine with her husband Jeff and their two “wonderful” sons, Michael (15) and Stephen (10). You can contact Kelly at kyoung@canada.com.

Linda Bruce (BA Psychology) informed us that she will be proud to display her UW Arts Grad sticker. Linda reports that she did her BA entirely through correspondence. She says, “I have met several people in the last few years who have benefitted from UW’s correspondence courses in the pre-online, pre-teleconferencing era, and who share my gratitude for having had that opportunity.” Linda says that her work has changed several times since graduation. She now works as a project coordinator for Northern Lights Vocational Services in employment and vocational counselling, developing and coordinating new programs, while completing an MA degree in adult education through the Central Michigan University extension program. Linda lives in Victoria Harbour, Ontario, with her two children (12 and 10). Her email address is brucefamily@sympatico.ca.
Carolyn Cresswell (née Dessler, BA French) says, "I’m thrilled to be the new owner of the Room for Two Maternity store in Kitchener. I had been at home with my children, Jeremy (6), Julie (4), and Jennifer (2) for the last three years. I previously enjoyed an eight-year career at Mutual Life in bilingual positions including underwriting.

Louise Green (née Appleyard, BA Fine Arts) works as a medical sales representative for Solvay Pharma Inc. in Midhurst, Ontario. Louise and her husband Gary Green (BSc ‘87) celebrated their 10th anniversary in August 2001. They are the proud parents of Cameron Edward Keith Green, born on March 22, 2001.

In June 2001, Blair L. Botsford (BA Economics; LL.B.; MA ‘95 McMaster) opened his own law office in association with the firm of Lowes, Salmon & Gadbois. He also owns and operates serviceberry.com, which is an interactive online business directory and web portal site. You can contact Blair at bbotsford@watlaw.ca.

Stacy Tran (BA Accounting, MAcc) has been working and living overseas for a number of years. She writes to us from London, U.K., where she works with PricewaterhouseCoopers as a senior manager. She can be reached at stacy.tran@uk.pwcglobal.com.

Christina Ross (BA Social Development Studies) has a big event to plan for—her wedding day. She will be marrying Michael Wills on October 26, 2002. Christina is currently employed with the City of Toronto Social Services as a caseworker in the community and neighbourhood services division.

Peter J. Misiaszek (MA Political Science) and his wife Ginette (WLU grad) "welcomed Alexandre Joseph to the new clan on July 8, 2001. Parenthood has changed my life overnight and I love every minute of it," says Peter. He lives in Oshawa, where he is the manager of Corporate & Community Appeals for Sharelife.

Chris Herborth (BA English) writes to us from Kanata, Ontario. He says, "On November 21, 2000, my wife Lynette and I celebrated the birth of our son, Alexander. Since then, we’ve been trying to find time to sleep. Alex is great, and we’re having all kinds of interesting times with him. Nothing can prepare you for this sort of thing, it’s amazing, and scary, and wonderful." Chris is the senior technical writer at Texar (www.texar.com), but says that BioWare (www.bioware.com) should hire me to do game writing and design."

Lucy Stewart (née Dorego, BA French Teaching) reports that she enjoys reading Arts & Letters to get all the latest news and see what other alumni are up to. Lucy is a high school French teacher with the Peel Board of Education in Mississauga. She recently visited the UW campus with some of her OAC French students who participated in the French Contest. "One of my students placed 44th out of 184 participants! I was so proud!" she says.

Peter McMullen (BA Accounting) was bored and tired, so he did something about it! He says, "Got my C.A., got bored, went to law school and was called to the bar, got bored, took over a gas station, got tired, got a job as college accountant at Thorneloe University, the Anglican affiliated college with Laurentian University in Sudbury, Ontario."

Miriam Hooper-MacIntyre (BA) moved back home to British Columbia where she is keeping busy. She writes: "I work and continue to take part-time courses at the local Malaspina college/university, focussing on gerontology and mental health. I suppose the topic is new to me, but my love of studies is not. And," she adds, "I look forward to showing off my UW Arts Grad sticker."

Regina Vera-Quinn (BA French Teaching) reports that after graduating from UW, she worked part-time at the Toronto French School (TFS) implementing a Spanish program. She also taught Spanish at the Lycée Français de Toronto. She writes: "However, the part-time position at the TFS grew into full-time. I started with one Spanish class and left with 12 classes. By then the department had two teachers and I was the department head. Last June, I accepted a half-time position at Waterlo to teach beginners’ Spanish. I’m thoroughly enjoying being back at UW and doing some occasional teaching at the French Board and the Wellington Catholic Board." You can contact Regina at peterquinn@wwdb.org.

Marlene Augerman (née Neufeld, BA French) and her husband Jim celebrated the birth of their first child, Marissa Julia, on September 25, 2001. Marlene is a French immersion teacher with the Greater Essex County District School Board in Kingsville, Ontario, and Jim is a certified financial planner and branch training manager in Clarica’s Windsor office. You can email Marlene and Jim at jim.augerman@clarica.com.

As the executive director of the Fergus Scottish Festival, Rachel Thompson (BA Speech Communication Option) was busy this past year organizing the 57th Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games which took place in August. Rachel is currently a member of the provincial Festivals & Events Ontario association board of directors and co-chair of the Waterloo-Wellington Philanthropy Awards 2002.

Laurence Kincaid (BA) says that he enjoys putting his degree to work in both his personal and professional life. Laurence lives in Pickering, Ontario, and can be reached at lkincaid8166@rogers.com.
'97 Conrad Kuiper (BA English & Sociology) is currently working with the Avon Maitland District School Board in Clinton, Ontario, as head of the English department. Conrad can be contacted at conrad.kuiper@odyssey.on.ca.

Mitzi Mitchell (BA Sociology) will finish her Master of Nursing degree this year at the University of Toronto. Mitzi is an educator and professional practice leader at Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Sciences Centre in Toronto. She can be reached at mitzi.mitchell@swchsc.on.ca.

'98 Anita Van Ankum (BA French Teaching) is glad to be home. After teaching French at the International School Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam for the past three years, she returned to Canada this past summer. "Teaching students from every country under the sun has been a once in a lifetime experience," she says. "I would strongly recommend it to anyone who seeks a bit of adventure." This past April, she took 22 middle school students to spend 10 days in France. Anita is currently teaching core French to grades five to eight at Howick Central Public School with the Avon Maitland District School Board. You can contact Anita at avanankum@hotmail.com.

'00 Tim O'Brien (BA Economics/Math Minor) works as a financial analyst with Dominion Bond Rating Service in Toronto. He reports that he is starting the CFA (Chartered Financial Analyst) program, since he's planning to pursue a career in the field. He says, "I'm also starting up an economic discussion group next fall for people who have studied econ, and I want to get together on a social basis to chat with other people who speak the same language. So if you know any bright, friendly, outgoing econ grads living in Toronto who might be interested, let me know!" You can email Tim at ttobrien@email.com.

Kris Isotupa (PhD Psychology) has recently moved to Kitchener to work in St. Agatha as a psychologist with KidsLINK/NDSA. "After eight years as a Waterloo student, I finally live in the same town as my alma mater," says Kris.

Vivianne Schell (BA) writes: "I've been working as a residence manager at the University of Windsor since June 2000 and love it. I supervise 25 staff and oversee two residence halls housing 400 students," Vivianne married Michael Sharpe in May. "He's not a UW grad—although I did meet him in K-W!" she says.

'01 Michelle Foster (BA Social Development Studies) writes that she is currently taking three distance education courses and hoping to attend teacher's college this fall. Michelle is a support worker with K-W Habilitation and an inventory control specialist with Wal-Mart.

When Arts & Letters asked Julie Blake (BA English/Drama Minor) what's new in her life, she simply had this to say: "My job, my house, let's see... everything!" Julie is director of communications with the Waterloo Stage Theatre. You can reach her at peggysue23@hotmail.com.

February 13 - March 2, 2003
Artword Theatre
75 Portland Street, Toronto

March 6 - 8, 2003
Theatre of the Arts, UW

The Laramie Project is a deeply moving theatrical experience that explores the effects of the Matthew Shepard murder on Laramie, Wyoming, and how the town struggled to understand and come to terms with the crime. It is a breathtaking theatrical collage that explores the depths to which humanity can sink, and the heights of compassion we are also capable of. This is the inaugural project of Studio 180—a professional Toronto-based theatre company comprised mainly of graduates of the University of Waterloo.

For more information, please contact Derrick Chua at dchua@alumni.uwaterloo.ca.
Where are they now?
Denis Bolohan, BA ’77 Fine Arts
Bryan Lane, BA ’80 Fine Arts
by Christine Woods

Bolohan and Lane carve their mark

Denis Bolohan and Bryan Lane are both award-winning snow sculptors, with an impressive record of group and solo exhibitions. They met at UW in the Fine Arts program, where their studies overlapped. After completing their undergraduate degrees, they both pursued graduate studies in sculpture—Bolohan at Eastern Michigan University (MA ’80), and Lane at the University of Saskatchewan (MA ’87).

Bolohan has competed in snow sculpture competitions both nationally and internationally (France, Moscow, Mexico), and has received numerous awards and grants.

In the early years, Lane worked mainly in Saskatchewan, where he was the captain of the Saskatchewan team. In 1999, Lane’s team won the Canada Snow Sculpture Competition during Ottawa’s annual Winterlude festival, where 13 teams of sculptors representing each province and territory carved a snow sculpture depicting a great Canadian moment which epitomizes their province or territory. They created massive snow sculptures from 16-foot tall blocks of snow in front of the Parliament Buildings.

In 2000, they both competed at Winterlude again, Lane as captain of the Saskatchewan team, and Bolohan as captain of the Ontario team. It was during these snow carving events that an old friendship was rekindled, and when Lane moved back to Ontario, they started snow carving together.

In the winter of 2001, Bolohan and Lane went to the mountains in Breckenridge, Colorado, to participate in an international snow carving competition. Fourteen teams from different countries created sculptures from 12-foot tall blocks of snow. Their team consisted of two other UW Fine Arts graduates, Steve McKay (BA ’94) and Ian Ferguson (BA ’85), and their “chef de mission,” Earl Steiler, former manager of the UW Humanities Theatre, who has since retired.

In the winter of 2002, Bolohan, Lane, and Ferguson represented Ontario at the Quebec Winter Carnival, which is the oldest continuously running snow-carving event in the world. “To get into these events we submit drawings or models which are then juried and if you have a good proposal your team gets in,” says Lane. “Denis is the captain and driving force behind the Ontario team.”

Lane is married to the former Wendy Camm (BA ’79, AHS). Two years ago they moved to the town of Espanola in northern Ontario with their daughter Julie (9) and son Will (5). Lane works as a freelance sculptor specializing in polished metals, plexiglas, stone, concrete, snow, and light.

Bolohan resides in Kingsville, Ontario, where he is a self-employed sculptor/designer, as well as a farmer on his own land. He has held sessional teaching and visiting artist appointments with arts organizations and schools.

Recently, Arts & Letters conversed with Bolohan and Lane about their UW experience and their snow carving careers.

What do you remember most vividly about your university experience?

LANE: My most vivid memories are the great times we had sharing a town house and how life was so much fun in those days. There were several different roommates, all in different courses and years; some were in co-op and some were WLU students. The one thing we had in common was that we were a great cast of characters who got along well together. It was during a period
when we all had a lot fewer responsibilities and were able to make the most out of our university days and all successfully graduate.

BOLOHAN: Even though I failed my first year at university, it was still the greatest learning experience of my life. A whole new world of people, places, and experiences opened up for me, and friendships formed at that time still continue to this day.

Why was your Fine Arts degree important to you?
LANE: My Fine Arts degree was important not for the piece of paper, but for the atmosphere and collaboration with other like-minded students that UW exposed me to. It was this exchange of ideas with students and with the guidance of a couple of professors in particular, that inspired me and gave me the confidence to continue my studies, and to pursue my life as a professional artist.

BOLOHAN: Receiving my degree was a start to my artistic career. It was the beginning of a learning process that continues today. While I was at UW immersed in my course work, I felt overwhelmed by the amount of information to absorb, only to realize now that it was a brush stroke on a painting.

Can you tell us how you got involved with snow carving?
LANE: I was involved with the inception of the Prairie Sculptors' Association, and they were asked to do something for Winterfest in Saskatoon. About a dozen of us collaborated on a large piece, which consisted of a circle of stylized figures measuring 30 feet across, and each figure nine- to 12-feet tall. The center of the circle was filled with Christmas trees, and the end result was a circle of figures holding hands around a big bonfire. After that the Prairie Sculptors' Association was annually involved in some form of snow carving event and assisted other groups in starting their own events. I participated in just about all of them.

BOLOHAN: My first snow sculpture was in 1989. I was asked by a friend to join her in competing in Quebec City. Along with my brother, we went to Quebec City and competed in the national competition. We won the Prix du Canada for our sculpture of two sitting camels. Winning this award allowed us to represent Canada at the international competition the following week. I continued competing in Quebec City for a number of years, and then went on to compete in Ontario and the United States.

Tell us more about your experience at the Quebec Winter Carnival this past year.
LANE: Denis, Ian Ferguson, and myself all connected in Waterloo and then spent the next 15 hours in my mini-van driving through the worst blizzard of last winter to get to Quebec City. This is one of the hazards in the life of a snow carver. But once we arrived our hosts took very good care of us, and we enjoyed the hospitality of a lovely hotel. The snow is great in Quebec, and the location just outside the gate to the old city is beautiful. You eat, drink, and work like crazy for the next several days, and if you are lucky, you are rewarded with a magnificent sculpture where once a huge block of snow sat days before. I always learn something new, make a new connection, and enjoy reconnecting with the other snow carvers.

BOLOHAN: Quebec celebrated 30 years of competitions this past year. I have been sculpting there since 1989, so it's always exciting to go back and see some of the same people year after year. There are three segments to Quebec's competitions: provincial—10 - 12 teams from Quebec; national—one team from every province and territory; international—12 - 20 teams. The provincial and national segments competed separately, but simultaneously for three days (33 hours). The winner from the provincial competition goes to the international competition as the host team, while the winner of the national competition represents Canada. The international competitions last for one week. The carvings are done from blocks of snow measuring 12 by 8 by 8 feet for provincial and 18 by 10 by 12 feet (25 - 30 tons) for international.

Are you currently working on any new projects?
LANE: I attended a sculpture symposium in early August at Shell Lake, Saskatchewan, where 11 artists created sculptures outdoors, on site, in a variety of media. I also participated in a fire sculpture event in September near Windsor, which Denis was involved with. I am usually working on something in my studio, and I participate in exhibitions whenever possible.

BOLOHAN: In September, the "Control Burn" collective, which includes myself and two other artists, hosted the first Canadian Fire Sculpting Symposium, in conjunction with the Artcite Gallery of Windsor. The symposium included guest lecturers, workshops on fire sculpting, and a final display—demonstration of fire sculpture. All symposium activities were open to the public. The fire sculpting symposium is expected to be an annual event.

Do you have any advice or insights to share with aspiring artists?
LANE: Don't hesitate to try new things, as you learn from everything you do, and you just might get good at something.

BOLOHAN: I don't like giving advice! Wait for the signs. Look both ways before you ...

For more information on the symposium, you can contact Denis Bolohan at 519-776-5190, or Artcite at 519-977-6564, www.artcite.ca, or email info@artcite.ca . Lane can be contacted at rightlane@sympatico.ca .
send us an update

We’ll send you a sticker!

Take a second to fill out the form below (or send the information by email) and we’ll send you your very own UW ARTS GRAD! sticker. This popular sticker has a transparent backing and is perfect for vehicle windows. Display it with pride!

PLEASE PRINT

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