In 2007, during the Faculty of Arts convocation ceremony, the University of Waterloo awarded a Doctor of Laws degree (LLD) to Denise Donlon, the newly-appointed executive director of CBC Radio.

An honorary degree is the highest order conferred by the University. The LLD is awarded for outstanding contributions to the development of some aspect of Canadian society or its role on the international scene.

Considered by many to be the most influential female executive on the continent, and the most powerful woman in Canadian music, Donlon says that driving into Waterloo to receive her honorary degree was an emotional experience. “I was filled with a tremendous sense of gratitude and humility and pride.”

Donlon was honoured alongside her fellow laureates, Malcom Gladwell and Jim Balsillie. “It was truly a heady experience to be included and celebrated in their company,” says Donlon, who also holds an honorary degree from the University of Calgary.

In September 2008, CBC Radio announced that Donlon would step in as executive director of its English-language division. “[She] is without question one of the broadcasting industry’s most talented and...”

continued on page 4
Welcome to the 2008 edition of *Arts & Letters*.

I would like to thank all alumni who shared their time and experiences with us this past year. In this issue, we highlight some of the activities that have taken place, as well as profile some of our alumni.

The Faculty of Arts held its second Arts in Academics recognition program, honouring 20 accomplished alumni; one of our honorary degree recipients has been appointed head of CBC Radio; an English grad, who has been a lifelong broadcaster, has been awarded the Arts Alumni Achievement Award; and a Speech Communication grad thrives in the not-for-profit sector.

As editor of *Arts & Letters*, my goal is to connect with you, our alumni, and find out what’s new in your life. It would be great to hear from you.

*Happy reading and stay connected!*

Christine White Woods
BA ’97 Speech Communication
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519-888-4567, ext. 32119
In these troubled and uncertain times, we are reminded daily of the important contributions that University of Waterloo faculty, students, staff, and alumni make to our world. Whether it is a political scientist writing about the global financial crisis, a sociology graduate student working on the Canadian criminal justice system, an alumnus being elected to the House of Commons, the Social Innovation group tackling mental health issues, or an undergraduate student setting off to Africa to work in rural education, Arts people are actively engaged in addressing the challenges of our time.

The intellectual and educational contributions of the Arts disciplines are well-known. Insights gained in courses in English, history, economics, classics, or any of the arts disciplines stand our graduates in good stead as they cope with the rapid changes and stunning complexities of the modern age. UW students graduate with a solid and broad grounding in the complexities of the human condition. Our graduates — you among them — carry the skills, aptitude, and motivation necessary to adapt to changing times and to understand and respond to the realities of a diverse and complicated world.

As the Faculty of Arts contemplates its role in the 21st century, we find ourselves excited by the possibilities and empowered by the opportunities. We know that our existing humanities, social sciences, and fine and performing arts disciplines make invaluable contributions to our society. We are well aware of the stature and impact of our School of Accounting and Finance. We also know that our new initiatives, ranging from the Stratford and Kitchener initiatives in digital media to the planned Masters of Public Service, have the potential to make a significant impact across the country. The impressive Balsillie School of International Affairs has already attracted global attention and will make a long-term impact on international matters.

The world needs what the Faculty of Arts has to offer, and, with our partner Faculties at UW, we understand the need to take the contributions from the academy and apply them in the broader society. This pattern of contribution, engagement, and sense of global citizenship — evident throughout our community — is the hallmark of UW and the Faculty of Arts. We are proud of what we have accomplished, but we know that there is much more to do.

No one ever really knows what lies ahead, but even the best analysts are struggling to make sense of the economic developments of the past few months. As we learn of plant closures, declining government revenues, and potentially higher unemployment, our thoughts go quickly to our alumni who must live and work in these complex and worrisome times. We know that many of you will be struggling in your personal and work lives with the economic malaise that has swept across the world. We know that you, like all of us, follow the daily news with more than a little shock and considerable dismay.

As our world faces the current financial challenges — on top of the issues of climate change, economic competition, war, religious strife, poverty, and social injustice — it is important to reflect on the many privileges that we enjoy. Through our association with Canada’s most impressive and innovative university, we are part of a large community that seeks to make a positive difference in the world. Our connections with Canada reinforce this fortuitous situation, for our country is blessed with such stability, wealth, and opportunity as to make us the envy of much of the world. It falls to each of us, individually and collectively, to find ways to improve the national and global situation. We have, in sum, many blessings and much good fortune as Canadians. Sometimes, we have to experience challenging times in order to appreciate our opportunities and privileges.

“UW students graduate with a solid and broad grounding in the complexities of the human condition.”
dynamic organizational leaders,” said Richard Stursberg, executive vice president of CBC English Services. “She is both a proven administrator and team builder and a champion of creativity, artistic excellence, and social responsibility.”

CBC launched its new Radio 2 format in early September, with a reduced classical music component and the introduction of Canadian singer-songwriters, roots music, pop, jazz, and blues, with key programs hosted by high-profile contemporary music artists. “I’m delighted to join CBC, as I’ve always believed in a strong and vibrant public broadcaster,” Donlon says. “CBC Radio is on a tremendous roll right now, launching exciting new programming that is engaging and meaningful to diverse audiences, reflecting all Canadians. These are exciting times, and I believe CBC Radio is well-positioned to enhance its reputation as the country’s best and most vital radio service.”

“Being in the company of people who felt that they could dream, or do, or build anything, and combined with the hands-on experience of producing events, helped me take on some of the challenges in my life that I wouldn’t have dared to undertake otherwise.”

An award-winning broadcast journalist and producer, vice president and general manager of CHUM Television’s MuchMusic and MuchMoreMusic, and former president of Sony Music Canada, Donlon is one of the country’s best-known media executives. She has devoted her professional career to the promotion of Canadian music and encouraging new Canadian talent, and in 2005, she was named to the CHUM board of directors.

She has been a leader in advocating for media literacy, tackling subjects such as violence, gender and racism issues, as well as promoting literacy among the young. In 1993, she was awarded the first Peter Gzowski/ABC Canada Award for Literacy. That same year, her team won a Gemini Award for Best Special Event Coverage – Election Night 1993 for Vote with a Vengeance, which raised political awareness among new voters. She has made significant contributions to the Canadian community through her work in literacy, AIDS, and environmental awareness, focusing much of her recent attention on various international, environmental, and humanitarian initiatives.

As the producer of MuchMusic’s Gemini Award-winning The New Music, she regularly featured programs related to her work in these areas. Donlon prepared The New Music special In Your Face: Violence in Music, which received the Yorkton Short Film & Video festival’s Golden Sheaf Award for Best Documentary by a Broadcaster (1993). More recently, she has been involved in several high-profile events and TV projects, including the Canadian portion of the Live 8 global rock concert, CBC’s Tsunami Concert of Hope, and the inaugural Green Living conference main stage. Also, in collaboration with Vancouver businessman Frank Giustra, a friend of President Clinton’s, she produced two multi-million dollar fundraising events with the Clinton Foundation – the President Clinton Foundation Birthday Event, which raised over $21 million in one evening for poverty alleviation, people living with HIV/AIDS, and to combat climate change; and the Clinton Giustra Sustainable Growth Initiative which raised $16 million. These two events featured such artists as Robin Williams, Sir Elton John, Norah Jones, Billy Crystal, and James Taylor.

Donlon began her music business career in the early 1980s while attending UW, where she organized music events, booked bands, and coordinated national conferences. She engaged early with the Federation of Students, coordinating extra-curricular events like Food Week, Body Week, and Energy Week. “Being in the company of people who felt that they could dream, or do, or build anything, and combined with the hands-on experience of producing events, helped me take on some of the challenges in my life that I wouldn’t have dared to undertake otherwise,” she says.
As an undergraduate student at UW, she recalls being enrolled in classes that were filled with “a zany and exciting collection of free spirits, activists, and passionate professors,” and living in residence with mostly engineers. “The combination of big brains and big dreams created a very empowering environment for me,” she says.

Donlon credits much of her success to her mother, who encouraged her to attend the University of Waterloo during her undergraduate years, saying “the world is your oyster, my dear – go out and be all you can be.” She tells us that her mother grew up in a girls’ school in England during the war, and she had a gift for literature and a love of music and the arts, but was prevented from continuing her education by the need to support herself in a country struggling to heal. In June 2007, Donlon’s mother had the opportunity to attend the Faculty of Arts convocation ceremony to see her receive an honorary degree. “To have [my mother] finally see me in cap and gown was a wonderful moment for her, and made [my honorary degree] more special and significant for me,” she says.

Donlon’s love and support of the arts is apparent. Even in today’s changing economy, where arts and culture are overlooked, she realizes the value of an arts degree. “Often when an economy is changing, and especially as we struggle to find stability in a volatile market, the role of the arts can be challenged,” says Donlon.

“It’s typical that when there’s an economic crunch, there’s often a tendency to revert to core, both in business and in government. Things of merit or those deemed to exist for the public good can be seen as discretionary, [but] the arts are not discretionary,” she says. “We are enriched by our arts, from poets to painters, from authors to musicians, from writers to dancers, and more – all of which are artistic expressions that help to inform us, and define us, and I believe, ultimately make us a more tolerant, more enlightened and vibrant society.”

Throughout her career, Donlon has initiated projects that have brought together music, journalism, social issues and human rights advocacy, and in recognition of her many accomplishments and contributions, she has been highly regarded. During her career at MuchMusic, Donlon received numerous awards. She was named broadcast executive of the year three times during Canadian Music Week (1994, 1995, and 1997). In 1994, she was also awarded the Record’s Video Personality or Programmer of the Year, and in 1997, she was the recipient of Toronto’s Women In Film & Television Outstanding Achievement Award.

In 2000, Donlon left MuchMusic to take on her new role as president of Sony Music Canada. This position allowed her to continue to promote emerging Canadian talent and work with internationally established Canadian artists such as Leonard Cohen and Céline Dion. In 2001, she received both the Wired Women’s Woman of Vision Award and the Canadian Women in Communications Woman of the Year Award, and was inducted into the Canadian Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame in 2002. Donlon also maintained her commitment to human rights by producing Peace Songs (2003) in support of War Child Canada. In 2005, she was appointed as a Member of the Order of Canada.

Donlon was born in Toronto and raised in Scarborough, “which was mostly fields and woods at the time,” she recalls. She now lives in Toronto’s east end and is married to Canadian singer-songwriter Murray McLauchlan. When time permits, she enjoys Canadian literature, music of all types, ballet, kayaking, cooking, and travelling with friends and family.

“I’m especially interested in having one of UW’s physics/engineering major students figure out how to alter the time/space continuum so I can fit in everything!” says Donlon, who remains connected to UW through correspondence with President David Johnston and other members of the university community.
Eric Friesen (BA ’67 English) is the 11th recipient of the Faculty of Arts Alumni Achievement Award. The award recognizes UW Arts alumni who have made outstanding contributions to their professional field and in community and public service.

Eric is a lifelong broadcaster, who thinks of himself as “a pilgrim of creative change and renewal.” As a broadcaster, writer, and leader, he has spent his life developing new programs and creating new ideas, and since graduating from UW, he has built a successful career in broadcasting, both in Canada and in the United States. “Eric Friesen’s radio personality is marked by his enthusiasm, his intelligence, his humanity, and his whole-hearted passion for culture and the arts in Canada,” says Sheila Ager, Professor of Classical Studies at UW.

Eric’s career in radio broadcasting actually began in the early 60s in his hometown of Altona, Manitoba. “It was here, as a child, that I became infected with the stealthy magic of radio,” says Eric, “with the signature voices of evening radio hosts from clear channel stations all across North America.”

In 1963, Eric worked his first on-air nightshift at a local radio station. He joined the CBC as a relief announcer in June 1972, in Ottawa. “It was a dazzling world: music, information programming, the arts, and like Walt Whitman I wanted to embrace it all,” he says. Over the next 12 years, Eric hosted various programs including, All in a Day, Radio Noon, The Passing Show, and ultimately The Eric Friesen Show, the first network morning music show.

After a stint in CBC management, where he was responsible for Ideas, one of CBC Radio’s signature programs, he took a position with American Public Radio in St. Paul, Minnesota, as the executive vice president for programming. Eventually, Eric returned to the microphone with Minnesota Public Radio, where he hosted an afternoon drive show called The Music Room, and the Minnesota Orchestra’s “live” Friday night broadcasts to the nation.

He was fully engaged in the arts and the life of that community, and in addition to his broadcasting, wrote for the Minneapolis Star Tribune and Minnesota Monthly.

In 1997, CBC Radio invited Eric back to Canada to be the network concert host. Based in Toronto for seven years, he spent weekday evenings hosting In Performance, and on Sundays, Onstage from the Glenn Gould Studio, bringing live music to the nation. For the past four years, Eric was the host of Studio Sparks, which was broadcast out of CBC’s Ottawa studios. Even though Studio Sparks has come to an end, he has created two major documentary series for CBC Radio: The Concerto According to Pinchas (10 one-hour programs on the great violin concertos with violinist Pinchas Zukerman), and The Concerto According to Manny (10 one-hour programs with pianist Emmanuel Ax on the great piano concertos). There is one more series to come on the symphony, with Peter Oundjian, music director of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra.

Eric is extremely active with his pro bono work. He is a frequent presence at concert venues throughout Ontario, introducing concerts, giving pre-concert talks, and doing interviews with the artists. He is currently the artistic advisor to Queens Performing Arts at Queens University in Kingston, and writes regularly for Queens Quarterly magazine. Eric has been a regular contributor to arts organizations throughout his career, and in the past has served as board director for several organizations, including the Roy Thomson Hall/Massey Hall, Toronto; Conrad Grebel University College; Minnesota Opera; American Composer’s Forum; and Ex Machina, a baroque opera company in St. Paul, Minnesota.

In 2005, UW acknowledged Eric’s career success by inviting him to be the featured speaker at an alumni reception held at the national gallery in Ottawa, where he addressed the question of “How an Arts Student Succeeded in a Sea of Engineers.”

As part of the first cohort of UW students living and studying at Conrad Grebel in the mid-sixties, “Eric left his distinctive mark and legacy,” says Henry Paetkau (President, Conrad Grebel University College). “His active leadership in the Grebel community demonstrated the interests and gifts he would later pursue and demonstrate, as well as the social and cultural values that would become the hallmarks of his career.”

Outside of music, Eric loves to read and garden; along with his wife Susan, they are working on creating a natural garden at their home on Amherst Island, near Kingston, where they are restoring the natural landscape of limestone outcroppings which terrace down to Lake Ontario.
The Faculty of Arts is seeking nominations for the 2009 ARTS ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD. This award recognizes Waterloo Arts alumni who have made outstanding contributions to their professional field and community and public service. Candidates must have a minimum of ten years post-graduation from UW to be considered. For more information, contact Christine White Woods at 519-888-4567, ext. 32119, or cwoods@uwaterloo.ca. The nomination deadline is April 30, 2009.

Grad class giving

The annual Grad Class Challenge encourages graduating students to make a contribution to their alma mater. This year’s class pledged $19,910, which will be used towards Faculty of Arts initiatives. Grad class co-chairs Krishna Mistry (BA ’08) and Pooja Lal (BA ’08) volunteered their time and energy to coordinate this year’s challenge.

Pooja Lal presents 2008 pledges to Dean of Arts, Ken Coates. At the time the picture was taken, the grad class challenge had reached $12,000.

Arts creates advancement team

BY TOBI DAY-HAMILTON, DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT, FACULTY OF ARTS

As we celebrated the University of Waterloo’s 50th anniversary last year, we also turned our sights to planning for the next 10 years. Our Sixth Decade Plan sets out many goals including top status across Canada for some of our programs, increased graduate programming, and a fundraising goal of $100 million per year by 2012.

To help accomplish the University’s goals, the Faculty of Arts has established the Arts advancement team bringing together fundraising, alumni, and marketing communication activities. Our team of professionals is working on many exciting new projects including the UW Stratford Institute and the UW Centre for Public Service, in addition to the many existing projects, centres, and scholarships within the Faculty of Arts. Our goals include raising awareness about the many important activities within Arts such as research, programs, and student success; improving our relationships with the over 45,000 Arts alumni around the world; and increasing support for student scholarships, research, and other Arts initiatives.

In this time of economic uncertainty, it is increasingly important for us to understand how we can help you, our alumni. Whether it’s through professional development courses, career advice, networking, or other opportunities, the Arts advancement team is your link to the university and its resources. We invite you to contact us with your questions, suggestions, or to let us know about your own personal success. We will also be contacting you for advice on how we can navigate these uncertain times and improve our services to you.

I thank you for your continued commitment and support to the University of Waterloo and the Faculty of Arts. I look forward to hearing from many of you and learning more about your journeys and adventures.

You can make a donation to the Faculty of Arts online at www.arts.uwaterloo.ca.

For more information on giving to the Faculty of Arts, contact Nancy Mattes, senior development officer, nmattes@uwaterloo.ca, 519-888-4567, ext. 38213.
German Centre receives lasting gift

The late Fred Stork, a successful Kitchener-area entrepreneur of German heritage, and his wife Ruth, have donated $1.5 million to support Germanic studies at UW. The gift to the Waterloo Centre for German Studies will support student exchanges including academic, cultural, and co-op work placements in Germany. “This gift was very close to his heart,” said son Mike Stork. “Although a true Canadian, he never lost his love for his mother country, Germany. He was an engaged community-minded citizen and a generous philanthropist.”

“This gift is the largest the Waterloo Centre for German Studies has received and will position the centre and the department of Germanic and Slavic Studies among the very best in the world,” said Ken Coates, Dean of Arts. “Over the past 15 years, the University of Waterloo has become one of the major centres in North America for the study of Germanic language and literature.”

The Centre and the Germanic and Slavic Studies department have received several major donations, bringing private and institutional support to a total of $10 million. They include an anonymous donation of $2 million, matched by UW and the Faculty of Arts, to establish the Right Honourable John George Diefenbaker Memorial Chair in German Literary Studies. As well, UW supported the growth of Germanic studies by recruiting a world-class scholar, Dr. Alice Kuzniar, to join the department.

UW board chair doubles new Arts research fund

Bob Harding, chair of the UW board of governors, has committed $3 million to support the newly established humanities and social sciences research endowment and the School of Accounting and Finance.

The humanities and social sciences research endowment was set up earlier this year to help researchers in the social sciences, humanities, and fine and performing arts improve their success in securing external grants and to support small-scale or start-up projects. The $1 million fund was matched as part of Harding’s gift and now exceeds $2 million. In addition to the endowment support, another $2 million will support 10 president’s entrance scholarships for accounting and finance students and fund three faculty fellowships to help UW recruit and retain the best students and academics in the industry.

“During difficult times such as these, it is even more important than ever to support students and researchers who will make a fundamental impact on the future of our Canadian businesses and economy,” said Harding. “The great issues of our day – globalization, the financial crises, intercultural relations, political stability, security, the social impact of technology – all require the insights generated by research in the humanities and social sciences.”

Balsillie School attracts Dr. Doom

The Balsillie School of International Affairs was established last year with a transformational gift from RIM co-CEO, Jim Balsillie. The School quickly attracted attention and an award-winning author and scholar known as Dr. Doom.

Thomas Homer-Dixon holds the CIGI Chair of Global Systems at the Balsillie School and is the author of *The Upside of Down: Catastrophe, Creativity and the Renewal of Civilization*, which won the 2006 National Business Book Award, and *The Ingenuity Gap*, which won the 2001 Governor General’s Non-Fiction Award.

Homer-Dixon’s research focuses on the intersection of political science, economics, ecology, geography, cognitive science, social psychology, and complex systems theory. Visit [www.homer-dixon.com](http://www.homer-dixon.com) for more information.

2008 Arts Alumni Entrance Scholarships

Thanks to your alumni donations, the Faculty of Arts offered ten new students Arts Alumni Entrance Scholarships this year. 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 92 to 94 percent.
Stratford Institute: building momentum

On March 25, 2008, the Ontario Ministry of Research and Innovation committed $10 million towards the creation of the UW Stratford campus to match the City of Stratford’s commitment of $10 million plus land. The following day, Open Text announced a transformative investment of $10 million of research funding and in-kind support to the Stratford Institute. These exciting investments are bringing the idea of a UW Stratford campus closer to reality.

The Stratford Institute will feature enhanced research in digital media and an extensive outreach/professional development program. In addition, a Master’s program in Global Digital Media and a senior undergraduate program are being developed as a second phase of the project. This exciting initiative builds on the strength of UW's Canadian Centre for Arts and Technology and the Digital Arts Communication Specialization.

One of the first activities of the Stratford Institute will be an Innovator’s Roundtable on November 24, 2008. This event will see 50 of the country’s business leaders, academics, and government representatives in a working session on Canada’s future in digital media. Actions coming out of this discussion will influence a major conference entitled Canada 3.0: Defining Canada’s Digital Future, to be held in Stratford on May 11-12, 2009. Watch www.canada30.uwaterloo.ca for more details as the conference program progresses.

On March 26, 2008, supporters from Stratford and the university celebrated milestone announcements in funding to make the campus dream come true. From left: Perth-Wellington MP Gary Schellenberger, UW President David Johnston (seated), Open Text Chairman Tom Jenkins, Ontario Minister of Research and Innovation John Wilkinson (also MPP for Perth-Wellington), and Stratford Mayor Dan Mathieson.

For University-wide alumni events, nationally and internationally, please visit alumni.uwaterloo.ca/events.

**ARTS ALUMNI THEATRE EVENT**

**Mad Forest**

**Tuesday, March 17, 2009**

Theatre of the Arts

Join us for a performance of Caryl Churchill’s play Mad Forest presented by UW Drama and directed by Andy Houston.

Watch for your invitation coming in February!

Complimentary tickets from the Arts Alumni Office for Arts alumni, faculty, staff, students, and retirees.

Limited seating – first come, first served (limit one guest).

**25th Reunion for Arts Applied Studies Alumni**

The 1985 Arts Applied Studies class (now known as Arts and Business) is organizing a reunion for their 25th anniversary in 2010.

A Facebook group has been created: University of Waterloo Arts Applied Studies – 1985 Graduating Class.

For more information, please contact Tony Wagner at tony_m_wagner@yahoo.ca, or Alex Lippert at allipper@uwaterloo.ca.

**2009 LIVE AND LEARN LECTURES**

The Waterloo Public Library is partnering with UW’s Faculty of Arts to offer a series of free public lectures on a wide range of topics.

The lectures are held in the James J. Brown Auditorium at the Main Library, 35 Albert Street, Waterloo, from 7 to 9 p.m.

**February 10**

Blogging yourself, among others: Online diaries and new communities

**February 24**

Convergent Telematic Theatre: A new fad of the future of live theatre

**March 10**

Mr. Plow meets the Beatles

**March 24**

Is it normal for my teenager to be gambling?

**April 7**

Saying Uncle: Speaking under torture or coercion

**April 21**

Necromedia

For event details, visit http://uatarts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ArtsEvents.html.
2008 convocation highlights

Arts Alumni Gold Medal

Iris Leung, BA ’08 Honours Accounting and Financial Management, was the winner of the Arts Alumni Gold Medal for the highest academic standing in the Faculty of Arts.

Governor General’s Silver Medal

Katherine Grace Surmanski, BA ’08 Honours Slavic Studies, 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.

2008 Valedictorians

The Faculty of Arts had two spring convocation ceremonies and two valedictorians. Melinde Whitfield, BA ’08 Honours Speech Communication/Arts and Business Co-op (Conrad Grebel University College), presented the valedictory speech to the Arts graduating class in the morning, and Adam Halpert, BA ’08 Honours Psychology/Arts and Business Co-op (St. Jerome’s University), presented in the afternoon.

2008 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 recipient was Monica Leoni (Spanish and Latin American Studies).

Honorary Degree Recipient

Grant Russell (Accounting and Finance) and Robert Kaplan.

A key figure in the management accounting profession, Robert Kaplan is the Baker Foundation Professor at the Harvard Business School. Recently named by the Financial Times as one of the world’s top 25 business thinkers, Kaplan played an instrumental role in revitalizing how management performance is measured over the last quarter century. He is the innovator of the “Balanced Score Card” system, originally a management accounting tool, but now used for business strategy execution by private companies, non-profit organizations, and the public sector.

Congratulations to our newest arts alumni

A total of 1,507 undergraduate students and 314 graduate students received degrees at Waterloo’s spring and fall convocations in 2008.
Tartuffe – spring theatre night 2008

In March, the dean invited arts alumni to a preview performance of UW’s production of Tartuffe by Molière. Desserts and refreshments were served after the performance.

Studio 180 – Stuff Happens

Alumni and friends enjoyed an evening of theatre on March 20, 2008, at the Berkeley Street Theatre in Toronto. Studio 180, a Toronto-based professional theatre company with strong roots at UW, produced the Canadian premiere of David Hare’s remarkable play Stuff Happens. The cast of 16 made this the largest Studio 180 project to date.

Julius Caesar – fall theatre night 2008

On November 12th, alumni, donors, faculty, staff, and retirees were invited to an evening of theatre along with a few special treats. Guests enjoyed a performance of UW’s production of Shakespeare’s Julius Caesar.

Political Science 40th reunion

On June 28, 2008, Political Science alumni enjoyed an evening of dining and reminiscing at Renison University College. The following people were in attendance:

- Sheila Allan (wife of Gordon Allan, BA ’68, MA ’70 – deceased)
- Andy Anstett, BA ’69
- John Fauquier, MASc ’77, PhD ’85
- Planning
- Ken Kernaghan (former Political Science professor)
- Jack Kersell (retired Political Science professor)
- Wendy King, BA ’68
- Ron Lang, BA ’68, MA ’69
- Bob Needham (retired UW professor)
- Richard Nutbrown (Political Science chair)
- Robert Smith, MA ’72
- Jo Surich, BA ’69, MA ’70

Special thanks go out to Ron Lang, who made this event possible. Ron is a proud alumnus, who still has the car that he used to drive while on campus in the 60s. He received his PhD in England, met with Margaret Thatcher, and received the Silver Jubilee Medal from the Queen. Ron currently lives on the Ottawa River, and likes to rebuild and refinish canoes.

Fine Arts art exhibition and silent auction

The Department of Fine Arts held its alumni and faculty art exhibition and silent auction on September 27th, during Homecoming 2008.

The event was a huge success and raised over $8,000; all funds were donated to the Fine Arts endowment fund, which will be used to add to the learning environment within the Fine Arts department, including enhancements to teaching and facilities.
This year, the Faculty of Arts held its second annual Arts in Academics program, recognizing excellence in the academy. The following alumni were selected by their departments and were honoured at a special event during Homecoming 2008.

Melanie Bennett (BA ’06), Drama/English
Emanuel Carvalho (MA ’76), Economics; (PhD ’82), Planning
Andrew Cooper (BA ’72, MA ’73), Political Science
Melissa Doherty (BA ’93), Fine Arts
Dianne Draper (PhD ’77), Geography
Peter Gölz (MA ’87), German
Ian Gotlib (MA ’77, PhD ’81), Psychology
Trudy Govier (PhD ’71), Philosophy
Eric Hirst (BA ’85, M Acc ’85), Accounting and Finance
Doris Jakobsh (BA ’90), Social Development Studies/Religious Studies
Serge LeClerc (BA ’96), Sociology
John Marshall (BA ’90), English/Religious Studies, Conrad Grebel University College
Ian McKillop (MASc ’91, PhD ’98), Management Science
Peter McLaren (BA ’72), English
Irène Oore (MA ’76), French
David Porreca (BA ’96), Medieval Studies
Donna Rogers (BA ’77), Spanish and Latin American Studies
Ryan Touhey (PhD ’06), History
Cristina Vanin (BA ’81), Philosophy/Religious Studies, St. Jerome’s University
Dennis Willms (BA ’73), Anthropology

Thank you to all alumni who volunteered their time with us this past year. You participated in career panels, mentored students, attended events, organized reunions, shared your thoughts, joined committees, and more importantly, had fun!

I especially want to thank you on behalf of the Arts undergraduate students. One of the most rewarding opportunities for them is the chance to meet you, our alumni – these are magical moments. Teachers, lawyers, entrepreneurs, academics, and many more alumni returned to campus to share their stories. It’s these life lessons that can’t be captured in a classroom and that leave a lasting impression on a student.

We hope to bring you a variety of opportunities to reconnect with us in 2009. Join us for a night at the theatre, attend a fascinating lecture, or organize a reunion. You can also show your UW pride by hanging up your degree certificate, referring a student, or displaying your UW Arts bumper sticker on your vehicle. These are all meaningful ways in which you can engage with your alma mater.

I wish you all a peaceful and happy holiday season. Let’s make a new year’s resolution to stay connected.

Alexandra Lippert
Arts Alumni and Communications Officer
519-888-4567, ext. 37705
allipper@uwaterloo.ca

Watch for a complete list of
Arts events at arts.uwaterloo.ca/alumni.
research grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) to collaborate on the same project.

David Goodwin, Kevin Harrigan, and Glenn Stillar (Drama and Speech Communication) secured a $500,000 Emerging Team grant from the Ontario Problem Gambling Research Centre (OPGRC) to fund Harrigan’s 5-year research project on problem gambling.

Joel Greenberg (Drama and Speech Communication) has secured ongoing funding from the Zuckerman Family Foundation for Studio 180, a Toronto-based theatre company of UW Drama alumni, which has experienced unusually rapid growth after a mere three productions. In addition, Studio 180 received a three-year project grant from the Trillium Foundation in the value of $90,000 and two $3,000 project grants from the Toronto Arts Council and Ontario Arts Council, respectively.

Angus Kerr-Lawson (Professor Emeritus, Philosophy and Pure Mathematics) will be presented with the Herbert Schneider Award by the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy. The Society describes this as its most prestigious award, given to recognize “career-long achievement of distinguished contributions to the understanding of American philosophy.” Despite officially retiring in 1996, Kerr-Lawson has remained an active researcher of the history of American philosophy, focusing especially on the thought of George Santayana (philosopher, essayist, poet, and novelist). Kerr-Lawson both founded and has long edited the bulletin of the Santayana Society, Overheard in Seville.

Monica Leoni (Spanish and Latin American Studies) was awarded the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance Teaching Award in recognition of her outstanding achievements in teaching.

Catherine Schryer’s (English) research group was awarded the number one ranking, and $179,000, in their SSHRC grant category for a project entitled “Trajectories of Collaborative Care: Case Studies of Communication on Interprofessional Teams.” This is the third SSHRC Standard Research Grant that her team has won.

First BAFM graduating class

UW’s convocation in June 2008, marked a milestone for the School of Accounting and Finance, as the first Bachelor of Accounting and Financial Management (BAFM) graduates, including 12 Accounting and Finance Fellowship students, received their degrees. “I was extremely excited to see this first class graduate,” reports Grant Russell, the School’s tireless hands-on director of undergraduate programs. Praising students in a recent UW Daily Bulletin, Russell said, “I get to select them, I get to work with them, I get to celebrate their successes. It doesn’t get any better than that!”
**Classics student interns in Greece**

Laura Roncone, a fourth-year undergraduate student in Classical Studies, became the department’s first Canadian Institute in Greece Fellow. In January 2008, Laura left for a three-month period of study and work at the Canadian Institute in Greece (CIG), an academic institute devoted to the study of Greece throughout all time periods (though especially ancient Greek archaeology), and Canada’s only research centre in the Mediterranean. Full of excitement and trepidation, Laura arrived in Athens to learn as much as she could about CIG, its mission, and the great European capital where much of Western culture began.

This internship gave Laura the opportunity to be in the greatest academic culture on earth for those interested in the field of Classical Studies. Every night there was a lecture somewhere in Athens by an eminent scholar; students from high school all the way to senior PhD crowded the cafés and libraries, and various schools and programs offered study trips all over the country. Laura, in fact, managed to go on several organized trips to some of the greatest sites of Greek antiquity – Corinth, Delphi, Mycenae, Sounion – all run by leading archaeologists. It was the best possible classroom, as she could step out of a textbook and actually walk among the ruins of the great civilization that she had been studying for so many years.

Laura has admitted that her time in Greece has been the best educational and personal experience of her young life – the friends she has made, the material she has studied, and the lessons that she has learned will last a lifetime, and they have only strengthened her love of Classical Antiquity and her desire to continue her studies at the graduate level this fall.

**Exploring the boundaries of magic at UW**

In June 2008, 45 scholars from seven countries, six provinces, and seven states, assembled at UW for a five-day conference entitled *Magic: Frontiers and Boundaries*, which was hosted by Societas Magica. The conference kicked off with a broad, conceptual keynote talk on the Coptic magic of late antiquity by Professor Marvin Meyer (Chapman University), which set the stage for the rest of the conference.

The brainchild of Claire Fanger (Societas Magica) and David Porreca (Classical Studies, UW), the objective of the SSHRC-funded gathering was to examine the hows and whys of defining human religious, philosophical, or even scientific activity as “magical” across time and space. Magic is a slippery concept: the closer you examine it, the more elusive it seems.

Participants heard rigorous and enlightening papers arranged according to a rough chronological/conceptual order. Highlights ranged from Professor Gideon Bohak (Tel Aviv University) presenting his exploration of all 140,000 fragments from the Genizah collection of Hebrew manuscripts for magical texts, to Dr. Marco Pasi’s (University of Amsterdam) presentation of nine “Theses on Magic” which both summarized the general thrust of the conference and provided a functional definition of magic: essentially a Western concept which can’t be applied to other cultures without significantly altering its semantic space.

Professor Richard Kieckhefer (Northwestern University) presented his findings on the geographical concentration of witch trials in the late 15th-century, while Tanya Luhrmann (Stanford University) treated conference participants with an overview of her field work on people’s relative receptiveness to mystical experiences.

**New York-based movie actor makes unexpected donation to Drama**

Three 4th-year Drama students (Monty Martin, Wes Rowley, and Tyler Emoff) recently attended the Master Directors’ Summit at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival to hear New York-based movie actor F. Murray Abraham speak about what a classical actor needs from a director. Abraham is well-known for *Scarface* and *Amadeus*, and dozens of other leading roles in Hollywood movies.

During the question and answer period, one of the UW Drama students addressed the poor attendance at university theatre productions, at which point Abraham asked how much it would cost to promote a student show more successfully. “About $500” was the student’s answer. Later that evening, Abraham wrote a cheque for $500, payable to the University of Waterloo Drama Department, and passed it on to the Casting and Planning coordinator at the Stratford Festival. Abraham’s generous gift was certainly appreciated and will be used to advertise two student-directed shows in February 2009.
English PhD graduate wins prestigious international prize

Lara Varpio (PhD ’07 English) continues to receive accolades for her dissertation “Mapping the Genres of Healthcare Information Work: An Interdisciplinary Study of the Interaction Between Oral, Paper, and Electronic Forms of Communication.” Already earning her the 2007 University of Waterloo Alumni Gold Medal, Varpio’s ground-breaking study of communication systems on a medical ward was selected as the winner of the 2008 CCC (Conference on College Composition and Communication) Outstanding Dissertation Award in Technical Communication. Varpio’s research, co-supervised by Catherine Schryer (English, UW) and Lorelei Lingard (Paediatrics, University of Toronto), involved nearly a hundred hours observing the communication among staff of a busy medical ward, and analyzing the ways in which they negotiated among oral, paper, and electronic forms of communication. As a result of her study, Varpio was able to identify common misuses of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) that increased staff workload and inhibited intra- and inter-professional communication, sometimes with potential life-threatening implications for patients.

Varpio is currently an assistant professor in the University of Ottawa’s Faculty of Medicine, where she continues her research on the use of (and misuse) of ICT’s by professional healthcare teams.

English graduate student growth: quantity and quality

Long known for its innovative undergraduate programs in literature, rhetoric, and digital media, perhaps the greatest achievement of the English department over the last couple of years has been the growth of its graduate enrollment. Over the last two years, the department has seen its incoming PhD candidate numbers grow by nearly 300 percent, and it has also experienced dramatic increases in enrollment at the MA level. This year, competition for available spots in all graduate programs has been fierce, and the department will welcome 37 new MAs and 11 new PhDs in 2008-09. In the midst of this growth, its MA and PhD students continue to make important contributions to research, graduate life, and undergraduate instruction. And with the arrival of PhD candidates such as Pamela Mansutti from Italy and Danila Sokolov from Russia, the graduate study of English Literature and Rhetoric at Waterloo has an increasingly international inflection.

With an academic employment rate of more than 50 percent over the past five years (in a very competitive market in which this level of success is rare), and an outstanding overall employment record, foreign and domestic students alike are attracted by the unparalleled synthesis of rhetoric, literary studies, and communication design offered by the department’s doctoral program. At Waterloo, PhD students in English are pursuing research in many new, as well as traditional, fields of study, including digital communication genres, global literatures in English, the history and practice of autobiographical writing, medieval and modern theories of language and human cognition, works from all periods of English literary history, language use in medical and other environments, new media and literary theory, and more.

Waterloo PhD English graduates are making their mark as teachers and scholars at universities and colleges across Canada and the US, while graduates of the MA programs continue to thrive in law, education, advertising, technical writing, communications, and many other professional fields. Several new faculty members have been added over the past few years to help accommodate graduate growth, and an additional hire at the senior level is expected soon.

Fine Arts grads among emerging talent in Canada

RBC and the Canadian Art Foundation have announced the list of semi–finalists for the 10th annual RBC Canadian painting competition – the largest prize of its kind in Canada. The competition continues to raise awareness of the wealth of emerging talent across the country, as well as elevate the level of prestige for short-listed visual artists and the national winner.

The jury, comprising of nine esteemed curators, artists, and gallery directors from across the country, selected the shortlist from over 600 artists. Five semi–finalists are chosen in each of three regions: western, central, and eastern Canada.

Two of the five semi–finalists from the central Canada region are graduates of UW’s Fine Arts department: Sarah Jane Gorlitz (BA ’02) and Emmy Skensved (MFA ’07).

For more information on the competition and the results, visit www.rbc.com/sponsorship/paintingcompetition.

Conference on Cinema and Social Change/Kinofest: New Films from Germany and Austria

In early May 2008, Gabriele Mueller (York University) and James M. Skidmore (University of Waterloo) organized two major events celebrating German-language cinema.

The conference on Cinema and Social Change in Germany and Austria (May 1–3) attracted 32 speakers to UW from Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Austria, Germany, and Israel. Keynote speakers Barbara Pichler (Director of Diagonale, The Festival of Austrian Film) and Paul Cooke (University of Leeds) outlined some of the key issues facing the critics and interpreters of recent German-language cinema.

The film festival Kinofest: New Films from Germany and Austria (April 30 – May 4) was held in Uptown Waterloo at the Princess Cinema. Five films related to the theme of the conference were shown. Director Michael Schorr was in attendance at the North American premiere of his film and answered questions.
from the audience afterward. The turnout for KinoFest was very gratifying, tripling the average attendance at the Princess Cinema.

Both events were made possible with the generous assistance of the Waterloo Centre for German Studies, the Canadian Centre of German and European Studies, the University of Waterloo, Canadian and German scholarly funding agencies, and the Kitchener and Waterloo Community and Musagetes Foundations.

Psychology’s Centre for Mental Health Research

The Department of Psychology is delighted to announce the grand opening of the Centre for Mental Health Research (CMHR), in October 2008. The CMHR evolved from the Psychology Clinic, which has served the community for 35 years, providing assessment and treatment to children, adolescents, and adults with learning, behavioral, mood, and anxiety problems. The CMHR will continue to serve the community through the provision of low to no-cost psychological services, and will continue to be the primary venue through which MA and PhD students in our internationally renowned clinical program receive their clinical training. With a brand new, state of the art facility, and the support of a full-time administrator and a full-time psychologist, the CMHR will now provide exciting opportunities for enhancing connections with the community, for the development of new assessment and treatment programs, and for the advancement of innovative research.

Human Resources Management students excel at national competition

The Department of Psychology was delighted to support students from the Human Resources Management program who competed at the prestigious Excalibur Tournament – the Canadian University Tournament in Human Resources. Excalibur symbolizes both the quest for excellence and the vitality of the upcoming generation, and the 22nd Tournament, held in Montreal, in March 2008, welcomed over 70 students from 23 universities all across Canada. Competitors participate in a number of events and their work is evaluated by some 20 juries. The Waterloo team of Danielle Rochon (BA ’08), Cristina Lau, Nhu Nhat Nguyen, Amanda Briganti, student coach Sean Schofield-Hurwitz, and faculty coach Len Luksa, claimed third prize and a $1,500 scholarship, an outstanding achievement for the team and Waterloo.

Rochon, an Excalibur Team member, was also the recipient of the Grand Valley Human Resources Professionals Association award provided annually to an HRM student at Waterloo who has demonstrated academic excellence and a commitment to the Human Resources profession. Rochon graduated from Waterloo in June with a BA in Honours German, Arts and Business, and an HRM Specialization.

Human Resources Management is one of the hottest careers in Canada, and the Psychology department is proud of the tremendous growth and success of this program since it took responsibility for its administration in 2003: it now has 300 students enrolled in this specialization. Many graduates of the HRM program at Waterloo pursue the Certified Human Resources Professional (CHRP) designation after graduation. The CHRP designation is a provincially granted, nationally portable, and globally recognized standard for HR professionals who aspire to leadership and executive roles.

Spanish students visit Holguín, Cuba

Students from UW’s Spanish and Latin American Studies and the University of Western Ontario participated in an exchange program at the Universidad de Holguín. The students appreciated the opportunity of experiencing not only the immersion in the language, but also the rich Cuban culture, and the friendly welcoming of its people.

As Julia Nash (BA ’08) said upon her return, “It was an amazing experience. We learned lots in the classroom, but I think the bulk of the learning took place outside of school, when we had the chance to meet people and talk to them and learn about life in Cuba.”

UW and UWO students in Holguín, Cuba, with their Cuban professors.
Faculty of Arts remembers former staff member

Dick Knight passed away on April 21, 2008, at South Muskoka Hospital in Bracebridge. Knight had many years of service with UW, retiring in 1992 from the Faculty of Arts, where he served as academic counsellor from 1970. Prior to that, he was employed in Personnel, renamed Human Resources, as an assistant director of salary administration, and training and development. Knight was a three-time president of UW’s Staff Association, serving in 1981, 1985, and 1989. He was also twice elected to serve as a staff member on the Board of Governors (1981, 1984). In 1997, he was awarded the distinction of honorary member of the University of Waterloo.

Arts Co-op Student of the Year

In March 2008, Carolyn Fitton, third-year Sociology and Arts and Business Co-op student, was named Arts Co-op Student of the Year for 2007. Carolyn worked in Microsoft Canada’s community affairs department, co-ordinated the company’s charitable donations, and organized events to support the community. She organized the annual Microsoft Miracle Cup, which raised more than $25,000 for the Children’s Miracle Network. Carolyn also won this award in 2006.

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1965
Doug Peacock (BA ’65 Latin, BPE ’66) is a retired high school principal, who is currently serving his second term as a city councillor for the Otonabee Ward in Peterborough. He is also the chair of the mayor’s action committee versus poverty; vice president of the Peterborough Lakers Senior A Lacrosse team, who were the Mann Cup Champions in 2004, 2006, and 2007; and professor of education in concurrent education programs at Trent University.

1967
France Jouvin (Mills, MA ’67 French) writes to us from France: “After travelling the world for many years teaching French under the Bilingual Programme in Canadian Embassies (Trinidad, Moscow, Vienna, Ankara), I settled down in Burgundy with my French husband, who has a PhD in Philosophy from Dijon University; opened a B&B; and started to teach English. These last few years, I have enjoyed being in charge of both the English and Philosophy programmes at the Université Populaire du Chalonnais for Adult Education.” France has a son and a daughter, who are both federal civil servants in Ottawa, and she would love to hear from old friends. jpf.jouvin@wanadoo.fr

1969
Michael Clarke (BA ’69 Geography) and his wife Joy Clarke (BA ’70 English) visited UW and Renison University College this past summer, while spending some time with their son Colin, who now lives in Toronto. All the way from Trinidad and Tobego, this was their first visit back to Waterloo since graduation, and they were thrilled to have the pleasure of talking to President David Johnston.

1970
Mary Ottman (Koebel, BA ’70 French, English Minor) lives in St. Clements, Ontario, and works with the Waterloo Catholic District School Board. She is married with two grown children and three grandsons. ottmanjm@hotmail.com

1973
Harry Tiale (MA ’73 Economics) writes to us from Gaborone, Botswana, where he works in property development and leasing of both commercial and residential premises. He is the managing director of several companies, including Chobe House, Chobe Real Estate, and Tsodilo Investments, and consults on project preparation and appraisal. He also serves as the secretary for the International Affairs of Botswana Congress Party. In the late 70’s, Harry completed his PhD, which focused on the labour migration in Botswana. phaleng@info.bw

1976
A former alumni gold medallist and recipient of the RH Walters Award, Donna Lamping (BA ’76 Psychology) completed her PhD in Psychology at Harvard, and then held posts at Harvard, McMaster, and McGill before moving to the UK in 1992. Currently, a professor of Psychology at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (Britain’s School of Public Health and one of the UK’s few postgraduate medical schools), she leads an international program of research on measurement in health care, which applies psychometric methods to the evaluation of patient-reported outcomes. She has served as head of the Health Services Research Unit (1999–2002), dean of Graduate Studies (2003–2006), and is currently president of the International Society for Quality of Life Research. Donna says that her rigorous training in psychology at UW, much of it at St. Jerome’s University, was not only one of the most enriching periods of her life, but provided the intellectual underpinnings of what has been a tremendously satisfying career. Over a 30+ year career, with stints at universities in the USA and UK, she remains incredibly impressed by the high quality academic training provided in Canadian universities, and at UW in particular. She nourishes fond memories of the many excellent professors who taught her, the many lifelong friends she made, and the brilliant education she was privileged to receive while at UW.

1983
William Sloper (BA ’83 Economics, CA Studies) tells us that he has completed a second Ironman competition in Penticton, British Columbia (swim 3.8 km, bike 180 km, and run 42 km). Also, he has just sent his three sons to post-secondary education – Matthew (photography at Fanshaw), Warren (3D animation at Humber), and Brent (Chemical Engineering, UW). “Nice to visit the university with my son, who is staying in Village One residence,” says William.

1986
Following graduation from UW, Heather Bradley (BA ’86) went on to receive her BEd from Brock University, a BEd from York, and her MSc from Niagara University. She recently published a book entitled Don’t Wait for Your Ship to Come In. The book is available at hardknocks publishing.com. After 20 years, Heather has now retired as an elementary school teacher and started her own business called Home Sweet Home Inspections, inspecting residential properties in Kawartha Lakes and beyond.

1987
Kim Ackerman (McGladrey, BA ’87 English) is the “proud” parent of Joshua (13) and Lauren (10). She recently moved to Orangefield and is working in the mental health field. “Hoping to find the time to publish some poetry, as I have been writing a great deal,” she says. “With my change in marital status, I have discovered new topics and themes to explore.”

1988
Shari Biro (Tohivsky, BA ’88 Psychology) is currently teaching Grade 1 at Prince Charles School in Brantford, Ontario. Shari and her husband Tim have a daughter (15) and a son (10). “I keep busy with my kids’ hobbies, such as rep hockey, cheerleading, and dancing,” says Shari. “I also enjoy volunteer and fundraising work within the community.”

1989
Sarah Collard (BA ’89, BA ’93 Fine Arts) informs us that she is in the process of changing her career focus. She writes: “I was working part-time as an art teacher, but I am now working as an artist full-time. I have been painting several murals in Manitoba and recently in Toronto. Figures are consistently the theme in my exhibition work and are often exhibited in various galleries. I am intending to develop my decision-making philosophies this year through a one-year mentorship program at MAWA (Mentoring Association of Women’s Art) in Winnipeg. A trip to Asia is also in the works, to study the culture and social economical issues of the
area. I am presently enjoying raising my two creative children, Songa and Emanuel, along with Angelo, our tall, slender, tabby cat. Life is great when I have the time to putter in the flower garden, suntan, have a cup of tea, and hear the children giggle and make great art!”

scollard@mts.net

Tracy Elop (Barnes, MAcc ’89) and Kevin Elop (MAcc ’89) have taken their family on the trip of a lifetime. As you’re reading this, they will be somewhere in Europe, part way through a 15-month round-the-world trip with their three children, Michael (10), Laura (8), and Sarah (6). They started their odyssey in June, crossing western Canada in a RV, and then heading for Peru and France. By year’s end they’ll be in Fiji, and 2009 will take them to the Far East and India before they return in September.

A big part of their motivation is a desire to spend more time with their children, away from the distractions of day-to-day life. Foremost are things like sharing a campfire, playing a game at night while working their way across Canada, or going to a local market and choosing food for a picnic lunch. “We also want to share some amazing experiences,” say the Elops, “such as watching a beautiful African sunset, experiencing the Taj Mahal, or floating down the Mekong in Cambodia!”

The parents have definite learning goals, both formal and informal, for the kids. “We want them to live a simpler life for a time, realize how privileged most Canadians’ lives are, and appreciate different cultures and lifestyles,” says Tracy. “We want to instill in them a sense of curiosity about the world and life in general.” The children have lots on their own agenda: koala bears in Australia, an overnight train ride in India, river dolphins in Peru, the giant panda in China – and much more. Besides keeping daily journals, the young dolphins in Peru, the giant panda in China – and much more. Besides keeping daily journals, the young

1990

Judy Gadsby (Dunn, BA ’90 French) and her husband Brian live in Kitchener and have been busy raising their four children. Judy is currently in her 12th year of home educating. “Our two sons are in Grades 11 and 12 in public high school this year, and our two daughters are in Grades 4 and 8 at home,” she says.

1993

Ruth Latta (BA ’93 English) is self-employed as a writer/editor/teacher. Her most recent novel, Memories Stick, is the fourth in her mystery series and was published by Baico Publishing in Ottawa. For more information, contact baico@bellnet.ca.

ralatta@cybersus.ca

In September 2006, Kimberley Milousis (MAcc ’93) returned to her career as a senior tax manager at PricewaterhouseCoopers after taking seven years off to home school her three children. Since returning to work, she has opted for more balance in her life and has reduced her work schedule to three days a week. “My days ‘off’ give me time to invest in my family and time to continue with the ministry my husband and I do at our church,” says Kimberley. “We are also in the process of becoming accredited Christian counsellors. I love being able to work more with people while still applying my tax skills.”

kimberley.d.milousis@ca.pwc.com

1995

Tania Cornish (BA ’95 Social Development Studies) worked in Wisconsin, but returned to Canada, where she is currently an instructor at Medix School (professional health care training in Ontario). In June 2006, she married Shane Newman, a 19-year military veteran, and in November 2007, their twins were born (a boy and a girl – Carson and Kenadie).

tania_cornish@yahoo.ca

1996

Kathryn Hanmer Kennelly (BA ’96 Psychology) is employed as a home support supervisor and visiting nurse. “I was promoted to supervisor three years ago and very grateful for the well-rounded education from the University of Waterloo,” she says.

kathryn.kennelly014@sympatico.ca

Lisa Lucas Rosina (BA ’96 Geography) tells us that her daughter Anna (4) has started Junior Kindergarten and Mia (2) can hardly wait to go. “I love being able to stay at home with them and take part in their activities,” says Lisa. “Anna has a speech disorder and has been taught sign language to help her. This has been a learning experience for all of us. My husband Jake is great and also enjoys time with the girls.”

jrosina@cogeco.ca

1997

Upon completing his two BA degrees at UW, Matthew Bluhm (BA ’97 Sociology, BA ’99 Psychology), attended Humber College for the Fire Service program. In April 2001, he was hired by the City of Mississauga. Matthew married Barb Froizi, a Wilfrid Laurier University graduate, in September 2001. They have two daughters, Olivia (born February 2005), and Ava (born January 2008).

1998

“After a very enjoyable time studying at UW,” says Sab Kulafoski (BA ’98 Sociology), “I completed a BEd program at Brock University in 2000.” Sab has since taught English in the Principality of Andorra (Europe) and is currently a Special Constable with the Waterloo Regional Police Service. “My job as Special Constable enables me to use my education and experience in the law enforcement realm,” he says. “I hope to continue my education at some point either online or on campus, and I am engaged to a wonderful woman named Dawn, who also works for the police.”

sabbg@bell.blackberry.net

2002

In 2005, Tanya (Toni) De Mello (BA ’02 Honours Economics and Political Science/Applied Studies Co-op/ International Trade Specialization/Spanish Minor) received the prestigious Canada-U.S. Fulbright Scholarship to study at Princeton University. She completed a dual Masters of Public Affairs and of Urban and Regional Planning in 2008. While at Princeton, she became involved in community service opportunities and initiated a trip to do relief work in New Orleans after the tragedy left by Hurricane Katrina. “The experience changed me profoundly,” says Tanya, “reshaping the way in which I viewed my course work and narrowed my calling.”

In spring 2006, Tanya initiated a relief trip to Kashmir, in the area that was hardest hit by the earthquake. She was awarded the Princeton International Student Award in honour of her work. “These experiences translated into a realization that
I was meant to work in emergency relief, conflict, and post-conflict rebuilding,” she says. Following this, Tanya was awarded a summer internship, where she worked in peace-building through the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Geneva. After the internship, she took a year off school to gain exposure to development work in the field. She spent six months in Senegal, working in emergency relief through the UN World Food Program (WFP).

In July 2007, Tanya worked with the UN Commissioner for Refugees to identify the urgent needs of the three million people that had been displaced by the long running civil war in Colombia. She worked directly with displaced people and lobbied the local and national governments to fulfill their obligations to defend and protect their basic human rights. “The work was overwhelming and often devastating,” she said, “but I have no doubt in my mind that I was doing exactly what I was made to do. I learned so much from living in that emergency situation, especially working with a people that demonstrated a mixture of humility, optimism, and resilience, that it has changed the way I see the sun rise in the morning.”

Tanya is currently studying Human Rights Law at McGill University, so that she can enhance her skills to become an international human rights advocate.

tdemello@hotmail.com

2003

When Chantry Makinen (BA ‘03 Fine Arts) graduated from UW, she got a job as a teacher assistant (EA) at Lutheran Self-Directed High School, as well as working at the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery.

She then decided to go to the University of Western Ontario for her BEd. “I was very lucky to get a full-time contract teaching job straight out of school, where I taught Grades 2/3, and the following year Grade 4 – both at Franklin Public School in Kitchener,” says Chantry. “This year, I started a teaching position at Sunnyside Public School in Kitchener, where I now teach Grades 7 and 8 rotary Visual Arts and have over 400 students. This is the perfect job, where I can combine my work and my passion! I have also continued to work on my own personal artworks and am hoping to show my work again.”

chatrnymakininen@hotmail.com

2004

Originally from a farm near Osler, Saskatchewan, Jan Guenther Braun (BA ‘04 English) now lives in Winnipeg, where she is “one-sixth of a work co-op selling organic groceries.” In 2000, she graduated with a Bachelor of Theology from Canadian Mennonite Bible College, where she participated in the summer pastoral internship program. She was the Manitoba winner of the 2005 CBC Poetry Face-Off competition and selected for the Manitoba Writers’ Guild Sheldom Oberman mentorship program. In 2006, Jan was an invited lecturer for the Margaret Laurence Women’s Studies Speakers Series, University of Winnipeg, presenting a paper called “Queer and Mennonite: Putting My Protestant Work Ethic to Good Use.” Jan recently published her first novel entitled Somewhere Else, which is being published by Arbeiter Ring Publishing; an official launch is planned for December 3rd in Winnipeg.

www.janguentherbraun.ca

Cathleen McKague (BA ‘04 English Literature) is currently enrolled in a one-year Master of Arts degree program at The Shakespeare Institute in Stratford-upon-Avon, UK. The program (Shakespeare, Stratford-upon-Avon and the Cultural History of Renaissance England) combines history and literature. She is also a medalist in synchronized swimming: Provincial – gold (2007), silver (2008); National – bronze (2007). For the past two years, she worked as a supply teacher with the Waterloo Catholic School Board, and recently finished writing her first novel, which Cathleen says is “a playful, metafictional, stream-of-consciousness form of autobiography.”

cathleen_mckague@hotmail.com

2005

After her graduation at UW, Jessica Hamann (MA ‘05 German) returned to Germany in order to complete her teaching degree (German/English) at the University of Mannheim. She is currently working on her PhD in German Studies, teaching in school and university settings, and working in the dean’s office at the University of Mannheim.

Kristin Larion (BA ‘05 English) finished teacher’s college, went to Australia to complete her placements, toured the country, and came home to look for a job. “I was fortunate enough to achieve my goal, and I am now an employed elementary teacher!” she says. “Although I miss my days at Waterloo, I greatly enjoy my career and my life. I have Waterloo to thank for starting me on the right path!” Kristin is a Grade 3 teacher with the Grand Erie District School Board in Paris, Ontario.

kurlkykrislin@hotmai.com

Tricia Schinkel (Stam, BA ‘05 Psychology, Fine Arts Studio Minor) has recently been accepted to Campus Alberta Applied Psychology (CAAP) to do her Master of Counselling by distance education. “This will take me three years to complete, while working part-time,” says Tricia. “I have been happily married for almost three years, and we enjoy travelling together, snowboarding, and our little pug, Roscoe. We have been to Europe, Panama, Australia, and are now going to Cuba.”

suzzie_bz2@yahoo.ca

2006

Upon graduation from UW, Isaac Acquah (BA ‘06 Economics) received a job offer from the YMCA as a career facilitator. Some of his responsibilities included identifying employment barriers facing youth and new immigrants, and assisting them with résumé writing, job search, career exploration, and interviews. “The education I received from Waterloo has gone a long way to help me succeed on the job,” says Isaac. “Since October 2006, I have been able to assist about 10,000 people with their employment related issues, and that to me is fulfilling.”

isaa_acquah@ymca.ca
Wendi Campbell graduated from the University of Waterloo in 1993 with a BA in Speech Communication. She received her MBA from Wilfrid Laurier University in October 2008. For the past fifteen years, Wendi has worked in the not-for-profit sector, including the Multiple Sclerosis Society and the Ontario Special Olympics. She has been employed with The Food Bank of Waterloo Region since 1999.

During Wendi’s career with The Food Bank of Waterloo Region, one of Ontario’s largest food banks, she has worn many hats: volunteer coordinator, working with agency relations and organizational development, associate director, and executive director since September 2007. The Food Bank of Waterloo Region is located in Kitchener, and distributes over three million pounds of food to emergency food programs within Waterloo Region and also assists with food collection and distribution throughout the province of Ontario.

Wendi enjoys the opportunities for career growth that the Food Bank offers, and with her extensive experience in the development and management of volunteer programs, she realizes she can make a difference. “It is a great environment that supports innovative ideas and risk-taking,” she says, “and giving back to the community while earning a living is the greatest reward.” She is an active member of the National Food Safety, Standards, and Operations Committee (Food Banks Canada), and the HR Advisory Council for the Voluntary and Non-Profit Sector, working with staff and volunteers at both the provincial and national level.

As a member of UW’s Alumni Council, Wendi works with other committee members to help foster a lifelong relationship between the university and its alumni, and to help serve the needs of the alumni community through events and workshops. As well, she actively participates in faculty and department career information sessions with students.

Wendi was born and raised in the York Region, and currently lives in Waterloo with her husband Craig, their daughter Madison (12), and son Ben (10). She enjoys renovating and decorating her house, skiing with her family, cooking, and gardening.

The refrigerated truck is a recent Food Bank purchase that was made possible by community donations. The truck delivers perishable food to member agencies and food programs.
member and a team leader, and the friends that I gained during that period influenced and inspired me during the rest of my time at UW.

Why was your Speech Communication degree important to you?
Like many young students, I came to UW not really knowing where I was going to end up when I finished my degree. I knew my strength was in English and writing, but focusing on core literature courses was not leading me in the direction that I wanted. Speech Communication came by accident; I enrolled in the option because I was a good public speaker. When the program director announced that Speech Communication was going to become a degree program, I think I was the first to sign up. It was the perfect fit — something I excelled at and a series of skills and courses that I could see being very relevant to a career. Speech Communication changed everything for me, and I will always thank Jill Tomasson Goodwin, the program director at the time, for that.

Did your degree in Speech Communication impact your career choices?
Absolutely! It was amazing to go into job interviews and talk about skills that I had developed during course work – relevant skills. In my first job with the Multiple Sclerosis Society, I coordinated the fundraising program with school boards across the province, dealing with staff and students. The two essential elements were communication and presentations. My second job was with Ontario Special Olympics, and as I travelled across the province working with volunteer groups, I frequently relied on my speech communication course work to help deal with conflict resolution, small group communication, and interviewing. I was also fortunate to have summer jobs that were relevant, working as a student placement officer where I did a lot of public speaking, interviewing, and some work with the media.

You are the executive director of The Food Bank of Waterloo Region. Can you tell us how and why you first got involved with that organization?
After the birth of my second child, my job at the time had changed from being a home-based program consultant with a very flexible schedule, to being a full-time position in the organization’s head office providing support to the field consultants. While it was a wonderful leadership position, it was an unbearable daily commute to Toronto from Waterloo – very expensive, and with two small children it became stressful. Moving to Toronto or the GTA was not an option, so I looked for work closer to home. I interviewed for a volunteer coordinator position at the Food Bank and was hired on a one-year contract. Nine years later and I am still there! I’ve learned a lot about the programs and services that are offered by the Food Bank and realize how important they are to the well-being of our community. I am committed to using my skills and experiences to make a difference.

The Food Bank of Waterloo Region collaborates with the community on the Waterloo Region Shares program. How does the program operate?
The Waterloo Region Shares initiative was established to help strengthen the food support network in the Waterloo Region. Working with other programs, community leaders, and the community at large, combines the best of our skills and abilities. As a partnership, we address such areas as service, improving food safety, promoting good food usage, and identifying better ways of food distribution. The program is led by staff from The Food Bank, Cambridge Self-Help Food Bank, Woolwich Community Services, House of Friendship, and The Region of Waterloo. Together, they want to ensure that everyone has access to food, regardless of where they live, and that the food distributed is consistent across the Region. Waterloo Region Shares is about community capacity and community building. It’s about communicating with others and sharing what’s already out there.

The Food Bank sometimes hires UW Co-op students. How could our students get more involved if they were interested?
There are always opportunities for volunteers, especially during the day. We have a number of regular positions, but there are also special projects from time to time. It is great to have students working on projects that allow them to take what they have learned in the classroom into a real business situation. We enjoy working with UW’s Co-op and Career Services to recruit dynamic co-op students to join our team – sometimes for more than one term.

“Giving back to the community while earning a living is the greatest reward.”
You currently serve on UW’s Alumni Council and have participated in faculty and department career information sessions. Tell us a little bit about that.

After moving back to Kitchener-Waterloo in 1994, I realized that being close to campus allowed me to volunteer my time at my alma mater. Since the mid-90s, I’ve been involved in alumni activities, including the former Arts Alumni Group and a number of Speech Communication events, such as the World Café and career nights. As a proud UW grad, participating in career information sessions gives me an opportunity to share my experiences with other students, especially those in Speech Communication. Since it is a fairly new major program, they have a lot of questions about what types of jobs are out there. Being involved in the not-for-profit sector for the past 15 years also gives me a very different perspective. Most students are looking for corporate opportunities, so I like to inspire them to think about the not-for-profit sector and the opportunities that exist there. Also, I welcomed the opportunity to join the Alumni Council as a way to give back — it’s an extension of activities that I’m already involved with.

Where do you see yourself in five years?

I just finished my MBA at Wilfrid Laurier University after three years of part-time study, so I am still getting used to having free time at home! In the next five years, I will continue to be involved in committee work that is related to the work that I do. I would love to explore teaching at the post-secondary level. During my time at WLU, I discovered how little students know about not-for-profit/charitable organizations. There is a growing leadership deficit in the sector and one of the best ways to improve that is to educate students about the work we do and the opportunities that are there.

Do you have any advice or insight to share with graduating students?

I have always been a huge advocate of great summer jobs. Doing something relevant to your degree adds some vital work experience to your résumé. Also, do not be afraid to stray away from your master plan. When I graduated, I was sure I was going to be an event/marketing representative for a major corporation. Instead, I ended up in the not-for-profit sector, which turned out to be the best place for me, as I was fortunate enough to find positions that allowed me the flexibility to be a parent and build my career at the same time — relatively guilt free.

Take time to travel. I had the opportunity to attend UCF (Université canadienne en France) through Laurentian University during my final year at UW. A semester abroad became a time of reflection prior to graduation and helped me focus on what I really wanted to accomplish.

Wendi Campbell (left) with Toyota Motor Manufacturing employees, who are delivering their food drive donations to the Food Bank warehouse. The company is a great supporter of the work that the Food Bank does in the community.

A Bell Canada employee presents Wendi Campbell with a donation from the Bell Employee fund.
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What’s new in your life?

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