EVEN BEFORE THE FIRST BRICK IS LAID, the University of Waterloo's Stratford Institute is leading the virtual charge to help Canada become a digital nation.

In June 2009, the institute hosted the Canada 3.0 Forum in Stratford, which drew more than 1,000 participants and guest speakers from Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty to federal Minister of Industry Tony Clement.

McGuinty, whose government has committed $10 million to the Stratford project, said the province must throw support behind digital innovators and risk-takers. The City of Stratford has also committed $10 million to the institute's creation, and the federal government has contributed $5.3 million through its investment in the Canadian Digital Media Network, to be based in Stratford and Waterloo Region.

Plans are for the Stratford Institute to be a think-tank, integrator and training institute devoted to collaboration among digital media, international commerce, and culture. Initially, it will be devoted to research and graduate studies, with long-term plans to incorporate undergraduate studies into the mix, says Ken Coates, the university’s dean.

continued on pg. 4
Welcome to the 2009 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 a few of our alumni.

The Faculty of Arts recognized the accomplishments of Ian Kyer, a History grad, with the 12th annual Arts Alumni Achievement Award; and Sarah Lewis, who received her BA in 2007, with the inaugural Arts Young Alumni Award.

As well, Arts & Letters caught up with Economics grad, Rob MacIsaac, who was recently appointed the new president of Hamilton’s Mohawk College.

Our Arts alumni continue to make their mark in the world, through their innovation, creativity, and dedication.

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
cwoods@uwaterloo.ca
519-888-4567, ext. 32119
This Annual Update on the affairs of the Faculty of Arts comes to you at a difficult time in our nation’s history. We have all felt, directly or indirectly, the impact of the challenging economic times, and we live with a degree of uncertainty that we have not known for many years. The Faculty remains strong – enrollment is up, our graduate programs have expanded, research activity continues – but we have financial and other issues to address. We remain grateful for the opportunities that we have and appreciate the fact that we get to spend so much time with so many talented and engaged students.

Arts & Letters contains many fascinating stories on our accomplishments and activities. I hope that you will agree that we remain true to the traditions and reputation created by you, the alumni of the Faculty of Arts at the University of Waterloo. Not a single week goes by without us receiving news of another sterling achievement by a graduate of the Faculty. Equally, we are constantly in receipt of generous gestures of support from alumni for our students and our teaching and research activities. We follow you closely and take great pride in your achievements.

The Faculty of Arts continues to address the opportunities of our time. Our academic departments and disciplinary programs remain the bedrock of our Faculty, and they continue to flourish. We have experienced extraordinary demand and growth in the School of Accounting and Finance (SAF), and our colleagues in the School have responded with creativity and determination to the expansion possibilities. The new SAF building is the most tangible sign of the School’s many accomplishments. The University of Waterloo has led the province in responding to the desire to expand graduate programs, and our departments have contributed impressively in this area. Our newest initiatives – the Balsillie School of International Affairs and the Stratford Institute – have garnered tremendous external support and both are moving ahead very nicely. We have started work on a new Centre for Public Service, and a Master of Public Service degree program, both of which have attracted nation-wide interest. Combining the strengths of traditional disciplines with the possibilities for interdisciplinary and professional studies has long been a hallmark of the Faculty of Arts.

On the other side of the ledger, the Faculty devotes considerable effort to the challenges that we face. Our students face formidable challenges on the summer employment, co-op placement, and career fronts. We have been amazed by the generosity of employers in providing opportunities for our students and pleased with the creativity of our graduates in searching for work. But we know that these are troubled times across the board. We are also working very hard to connect our classes and programs with the students of today. The current generation of tech-savvy, globally engaged, and strong-willed students bring an enormous amount to our classrooms, but they also require us to adapt to new learning styles and shifting expectations. In the world where we are routinely asked to do more with less, we look very carefully at our options in order to ensure that our students receive a top quality education, gain the skills and insight they expect from a leading university, and leave prepared to contribute to a complex and rapidly changing world.

We are delighted with the continuing interest of alumni in our affairs. I have had an opportunity to meet many of you at various Waterloo events and hope that 2010 will bring even more such friendly encounters. We are very anxious to hear from you and to get the benefits of your experience at Waterloo and in the broader world. We know that the Faculty of Arts has to adapt to new realities, but we also know that what we teach and study in the Humanities, Social Sciences, Fine and Performing Arts, and Accounting and Finance fields is central to society at large. We remain committed to being the most innovative Faculty of Arts in North America.

We remain committed to being the most innovative Faculty of Arts in North America.
of arts who is spearheading the project. The resulting changes to digital media thinking, art, tools, processes, or services will have significant, positive impact on the economy, society, and individuals in Canada, and around the globe.

Tom Jenkins, Open Text Corporation chief strategy officer – which is donating $10 million in resources to the Stratford Institute – said that the institute’s inaugural forum was “a one-of-a-kind opportunity to shape Canada’s digital media strategy.”

Jenkins said the easiest, but also grossly oversimplified way, to explain digital media is to call it “TV for the Internet” and has dubbed the planned new Stratford campus “a film school for the Internet,” adding it will offer a varied program that will be one-third creativity, one-third computer science, and one-third business.

Digital media – which includes content such as video, audio, and text, in addition to the means of moving it on and off the Internet with computers and handheld devices – is one of the fastest-growing industries in the world, worth a projected US$2.2 trillion over the next five years.

“People ask, ‘why Stratford? Why not do this in Waterloo?’” Coates says. “But we can marry the technical expertise of Waterloo with a community filled with creative people who can invent content for digital media. It may be risky, but it is the perfect time, and perfect place, for this to happen.”

“Digital media ... is one of the fastest-growing industries in the world, worth a projected US$2.2 trillion over the next five years.”
Advancing Arts at Waterloo: A team approach
BY TOBI DAY-HAMILTON, DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT, FACULTY OF ARTS

OVER THE PAST YEAR, the Arts Advancement team has been working diligently to enhance the work of Waterloo Arts faculty and students. Our team includes development officers who work with our alumni and donors to raise funds through philanthropic donations, corporate gifts, and government grants, and alumni officers who build strong relationships with Arts alumni around the world.

Arts has enjoyed tremendous success in recent years with significant gifts that have established the Balsillie School of International Affairs, propelled the German and Slavic Studies department to one of the best in the country, and established scholarships for Waterloo students so they can focus on their studies. We are truly grateful for the many donors and alumni who have helped Arts reach beyond its academic walls and bring Arts research to the world.

In the next few years, we have many exciting initiatives coming to fruition including the Stratford Institute that will lead the digital media revolution, and the Centre for Public Service that will provide a new generation of dedicated and engaged public servants for our country. We will also continue to enhance the many important existing groups and centres in Arts already making a difference, such as the Centre for Mental Health Research that brings both clinical services to our local community and important insights into psychological research and methods. To learn more about the many ways Arts researchers are making a difference, I invite you to visit our website, join us at an event, or visit us on campus.

I encourage you to continue to show your support for Waterloo Arts by displaying your diploma, wearing a Waterloo pin, talking about your alma mater, hiring co-op students, and supporting your areas of interest. You, our alumni, are our greatest ambassadors, and we thank you for showing your pride and helping us make the world a better place.

Million dollar caller from Arts...again!

Each year, students from the Waterloo Call Centre reach out to our alumni and donors as part of our continued fundraising efforts. This fall, Arts student Nicole Deckert had a significant milestone – raising $1 million for the University of Waterloo.

Nicole joins a small group of student callers who have all helped Waterloo achieve its goals in building a better future. Other million dollar callers include:

- Jennifer Kieffer $1.5 million in 2004 (Faculty of Mathematics and Faculty of Arts)
- Matthew Campbell $1 million in 2007 (Faculty of Arts)
- Jackie Lee $1 million in 2006 (Faculty of Science)
- Pamela Gallowitz $1 million in 2008 (Faculty of Arts)

Thank you, Nicole, and all of our student callers!

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, Acting Director, Arts Advancement, nmattes@uwaterloo.ca, 519-888-4567, ext. 38213.
C. IAN KYER (BA ’72, MA ’73 History) is the 12th recipient of the Faculty of Arts Alumni Achievement Award. The award recognizes Arts alumni who have made outstanding contributions to their professional field and in community and public service.

After completing his master’s degree at Waterloo, Ian enrolled in the PhD program at the University of Toronto. He recalls that when he attended his first Waterloo convocation ceremonies in 1972, he knew exactly what he wanted to do with his life. “I would do a master’s and a doctorate in medieval ecclesiastical history and then teach at a university. I never once considered being a lawyer. My goal was to be a scholar and a teacher.” That all changed in 1977. Ian was almost finished his doctorate, with only his oral thesis defence remaining, when he began applying around the world for a university position, but without success. Since universities were not hiring in his field at the time, he decided to explore other career options.

In the fall of 1979, Ian received his PhD, just six months before he received his LLB (1980). When he was called to the Bar in 1982, Ian was asked to join Fasken & Calvin (now known as Fasken Martineau), a large Bay Street firm, where he secured an articling position after law school. Ian has worked at the firm for 27 years, and the Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory ranks him as one of the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada. Some of his other accolades include being twice rated as one of the top 25 IT lawyers in the world in Euromoney’s The Best of the Best, and granted the highest rating by Martindale-Hubbell, an authoritative resource for information on the worldwide legal system. For several years, he has been listed in the International Who’s Who of Internet and E-Commerce Lawyers.

Throughout his career, Ian says that he has had two loves – law and history – and he has dedicated himself to both. Ian recognized that his education gave him skills that could be used in many fields of endeavour. “To my mind it is mostly about flexibility, adaptability, and determination,” he says.

As a notable Canadian legal historian, and author or editor of numerous law books and articles, Ian currently serves as a director of the Osgoode Society for Canadian Legal History. He is a member of the editorial board of several computer law publications, including the Oxford International Journal of Law and Information Technology, and the founder and first president of the Canadian IT Law Association (IT.Can), Canada’s first national computer law association.

Ian has served as a volunteer for several educational institutions including ePresence, an open source multimedia initiative of the University of Toronto, as well as NECTAR, a national research network focused on multimedia collaborative learning tools. His involvement in Impact, Canada’s largest youth-run entrepreneurship group, has been invaluable, supporting the development of young entrepreneurs by providing sponsorship and pro bono legal services to the student run organization (www.impact.org). “Ian is incredibly giving, and this is what makes him a truly great leader,” say Kunal Gupta (BSE ’08) and Ray Cao (BASc ’09), both past presidents of Impact.

Ian continues to contribute to his alma mater and has participated in Waterloo’s Lecture Series, as well as served as an advisor to President David Johnston on IT law issues. Ian was a Hugh Mackinnon memorial lecturer in the History department, and collaborates with Professor John English, who is the general editor for the Dictionary of Canadian Biography, for which Ian has written eight biographies. Ian has worked on numerous projects with Professor Emeritus Donald Cowan (Computer Science) and Professor Dominic Covvey (Science). Several years ago, all three participated in a think tank on health information and privacy. He is currently working with Professor Vic DiCiccio (Computer Science) on a new network centre of excellence (NCE) project dealing with graphics, animation, and new media.

As a fan of classical music composer Antonio Salieri, Ian is currently writing a historical novel retelling the Amadeus story. His future plans include writing more historical novels about 18th- and 19th-century musicians, and perhaps a non-fiction guide to Mozart’s contemporaries entitled The Other Composers.
Social change advocate receives first annual arts young alumni award

SARAH LEWIS (BA ’07 Economics) is the first recipient of the Faculty of Arts Young Alumni Award. The award recognizes Arts young alumni who have made outstanding contributions to their professional field and in community and public service within 10 years of graduating.

Sarah is a recent graduate who is passionate about social change. She believes in fighting for the most vulnerable or powerless in a group, while encouraging everyone around her to have a positive impact on the world. Her decisions and actions are driven by her passion of contributing to a world of greater justice. “By connecting with the experience of local champions and supporting them, development workers can move a community forward sustainably,” says Sarah. “It’s been a privilege to work with local champions both in Ghana and in Canada.”

Sarah’s leadership and entrepreneurial spirit was evident while she was a student at Waterloo. In 2004, she received the J.R. Coutts Students Without Borders scholarship to work with Engineers Without Borders (EWB) in Cameroon during a co-operative education term, where she helped rural community groups promote improved sanitation. After returning from Central Africa, Sarah became the president of Waterloo’s Chapter of EWB. She became known for recruiting, training, and mentoring future leaders of the organization. In 2005, Waterloo won EWB Chapter of the Year Award, and Sarah received EWB’s Volunteer of the Year Award. “EWB is creating a new generation of social change leaders, and I am extremely grateful to have been a part of these achievements,” she says.

In 2007, Sarah became a member of EWB’s overseas volunteer staff in the Upper East Region of Ghana. She was responsible for building trust at all levels of the hierarchy, conducting an organizational diagnostic, and leading a change project within the Ghanaian Ministry of Food and Agriculture in that region. Her diagnostic revealed the need to upgrade the farmer extension work from simply promoting technologies to supporting and making productive investments as they make their way out of subsistence farming. To address this gap, Sarah assembled a team of extension agents and created a new set of agricultural extension tools for the Ministry’s field agents. These tools and the associated approach have become known as EWB’s “Agriculture as a Business” program, and is currently being scaled-up in all three regions of Northern Ghana and has reached over 50 agents and 1,000 farmers.

Throughout her time overseas with EWB, Sarah continued to mentor Waterloo students and help them expand their views of the world. Two of the students took on leadership roles in the EWB when they returned to Waterloo. Sarah continues to be a mentor and friend for many members of EWB at Waterloo who are embarking on the next steps in their journey. “Mentoring is what helps volunteers to process the experience of working to change poverty in Africa,” says Sarah. “By sharing our experiences, leaders in the organization pass on the bug of creating positive social change.”

After her return from Ghana, Sarah was quick to take on a role as the economic development officer in Nipigon. She has taken on a large-scale downtown revitalization project, spearheaded an extension of the Trans Canada Trail, and encouraged collaboration over competition between local communities and interest groups. “Working in a rural northwestern Ontario community of 1,700 people, which is struggling as a result of the collapse of the forestry industry, has introduced me to the challenges Canadians face in developing local economies in a new and more competitive environment,” she says.

In Nipigon, Sarah has found a place where she is happy and able to challenge herself, can use her entrepreneurial spirit, and apply her economics degree to help the community blossom into an exciting city that is economically prosperous. “Canadians today have an unprecedented opportunity to take actions that not only build their communities and local economies, but reach across national boundaries to improve the opportunities for Africa,” explains Sarah. “We must urgently learn how we, as individuals, can leverage this opportunity for positive social change and make it a reality.”

WE WANT YOUR NOMINATIONS!

The Faculty of Arts is seeking nominations for the 2010 Arts Alumni Achievement Award and the 2010 Arts Young Alumni Award. The nomination deadline is April 30, 2010.

For details, go to arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/alumni/awards.html.
2009 CONVOCATION highlights

**Arts Alumni Gold Medal**
George Orlov, BA ’09 Honours Economics (Renison), was the winner of the Arts Alumni Gold Medal for the highest academic standing in the Faculty of Arts.

**Governor General’s Silver Medal**
Cecile Monique Michniewicz, BA ’09 Honours Music (Conrad Grebel), 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 Waterloo. The Governor General of Canada awards three medals each year to recognize Waterloo’s top three graduates.

**2009 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 François Paré (French Studies) and Kerry Lappin-Fortin (Italian and French Studies, St. Jerome’s).

**2009 Valedictorians**
The Faculty of Arts had two spring convocation ceremonies and two valedictorians. Victoria Simpson, BA ’09 Honours Speech Communication/Arts and Business Co-op, left, presented the valedictory speech to the Arts graduating class in the morning, and Catherine Elizabeth Johns Ruta, BA ’09 Honours Legal Studies (St. Jerome’s University), presented in the afternoon.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST ARTS ALUMNI**
A total of 1,006 undergraduate students and 128 graduate students received degrees at Waterloo’s spring convocation in 2009.
Mad Forest — spring theatre night 2009
On March 17th, alumni, students, and friends gathered for a night of theatre. To assist our drama students in raising $20,000 for a cultural exchange with Italian students, we asked the audience to support the exchange program by contributing a toonie at the performance. Thank you for your support!

Arts Last Lecture — March 30, 2009
More than 400 people packed the Theatre of the Arts for the Arts Last Lecture event, a final lecture for graduating students campus-wide. Amidst theatrics, Larry Smith, adjunct professor of economics, talked about the realities of our economy. Waterloo Magazine editor Kelley Teahen attended the lecture and summarized Smith’s “dos” for starting a career in tough times:
- To Thine Own Self Be True. “This presumes you know who you are. If you don’t know that, make that job one.”
- Discover your passion. What makes you want to get up in the morning?
- Evaluate a job. Interview the employer. Volunteer to do things that will expand your resumé.
- If you can’t find a job that fits your passions, find one where you meet other people. Each is a potential employer. Demonstrate what you can do.
- If full-time work is cut, offer to do a piece of the needed work. Especially in difficult times, there are opportunities for contract and contingency workers.
- Network like mad. Talk to family, neighbours, and friends. Carry up-to-date resumés and business cards everywhere. Pitch all the time.

Calgary alumni event
Alumni gathered for a summer evening in the garden at beautiful Lougheed House in downtown Calgary on Tuesday, August 25th. Teri Horne (BA ’71), owner of Virgo Garden Design, shared her extensive gardening experience and answered questions from alumni.

School of Accounting and Finance — new building grand opening
On September 8, 2009, alumni experienced life as a student for one day! Waterloo cheers and spirit awards were part of the festivities, as alumni and friends of the School of Accounting and Finance enjoyed a day of ribbon cutting, celebration of the new space, and building tours. Lunch was served in the arts quad with all first-year Arts students.

First SAF lecture series
Alumni, students, and friends gathered for the first School of Accounting and Finance (SAF) lecture series on Tuesday, September 22nd, in the new SAF building. Don Stewart, CEO of Sun Life Financial, presented a lecture on “The New Financial Order.” Everyone had the opportunity to network and socialize at the reception afterwards.
London alumni event

Approximately 45 Waterloo alumni gathered at Aroma Mediterranean Restaurant in London, Ontario, to enjoy beverages and hors d’oeuvres as Michael Schmalz (BASc ’91, BA ’93), founder and president of Digital Extremes Inc., spoke about his successes in the interactive entertainment industry.

Vancouver alumni event

Vancouver’s beautiful Grouse Mountain was the perfect place for an alumni event (thanks to everyone who attended). Dean Ken Coates provided lively insight into Canadian competitiveness despite his fear of heights.

Alumni career nights

Thank you to all of our alumni who participated in career nights this past year.

Arts in Academics

This year, the University of Waterloo celebrated Homecoming, and as part of these celebrations the Faculty of Arts recognized the academic achievements of Waterloo alumni. The third annual Arts in Academics event took place on Friday, September 25th. During this event, department nominees were presented with a special gift and an honorary plaque that will be placed within each of the departments. After the formal presentations, everyone gathered for a celebratory dinner.

ARTS IN ACADEMICS AWARD RECIPIENTS

Jean-Philippe Beaulieu (MA ‘83), French
Sandra Burt (MA ’69), Political Science
Betty E. Calderón de Callejas (BA ’00 – Joint Degree in Fine Arts), Spanish
Catherine Clifford (BA ’83), Religious Studies (St. Jerome’s)
Patricia Coyne (BA ’65), Latin (St. Jerome’s)
Neil Guppy (MSc ’74, PhD ’81), Sociology
Larry Lamb (BIS ’89), Independent Studies
Tracy Penny Light (PhD ’03), History
Bernhard Martin (MA ’86), German
S. Brooke Milne (BA ’97), Anthropology
Debra Pepler (PhD ’79), Psychology
Jeff Pittman (PhD ’00), Accounting
Paul Rusnock (PhD ’96), Philosophy
Ray Siemens (BA ’89), English
Dan Smith (BES ’77, MA ’79), Geography
Larry Smith (BA ’68, MA ’75), Economics
Jeremy Taylor (BA ’04 – Joint Degree in English), Drama
Chris Williams (BA ’91), Fine Arts

To view a complete list of profiles, visit arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/alumni/awards.html.
Arcadia
By Tom Stoppard
Wednesday, March 10, 2010
Theatre of the Arts
Join us for a performance of Tom Stoppard’s play Arcadia presented by Waterloo Drama and directed by Gerd Hauck.
Watch for your invitation coming in February!
Complimentary tickets from the Office of Alumni Affairs for alumni, faculty, staff, students, and retirees.
Limited seating — first come, first served (limit one guest).

Waterloo economics grads Hugh McCarrel (BA ’74) and Gilbert Maunder (BA ’71) may have shared a major, but what really defined their friendship was a passion for golf. They spent long evenings after classes on local courses, hit the links together at Myrtle Beach, and even managed to squeeze in a round the morning of Hugh’s wedding. But over the years, after a series of career changes and relocations, the friends lost touch. When Hugh decided to re-connect with Gil, he wasn’t sure where to look. Canada 411 wasn’t much help, as Hugh didn’t know where his friend might be living. Eventually, Hugh contacted Alumni Affairs. We were able to let Gil know that Hugh was looking for him. Soon after, the two met for lunch and now plan to stay in touch.

“If it wasn’t for Alumni Affairs, I’m not sure how I would have found Gil,” Hugh says.

Alumni Affairs helps
golfing buddies
link up

Here are some ways Alumni Affairs can help.

Search the online alumni directory in the eCommunity at alumni.uwaterloo.ca/ecommunity. Don’t forget to update your contact information on your eCommunity profile so your friends can find you, as well (only those items you select as ‘public’ will be available for other alumni to see).

If you can’t find the person you’re looking for in the eCommunity directory, contact Alumni Affairs at alumni@alumni.uwaterloo.ca.

Be sure to include the full name, degree, and grad year of the alumnus you’re searching for. If we have the means to contact them, we’ll let them know you’d like to get in touch. (To avoid overwhelming staff, please limit your request to one or two alumni you’d like to contact.)
faculties awards and accolades

Ken Coates (History, Dean of Arts) and Whitney Lackenbauer (History, St. Jerome’s) have won the $35,000 Donner Prize for their book, Arctic Front: Defending Canada in the Far North (Thomas Allen Publishers). It was named Canada’s best public policy book at a gala event in Toronto, in April 2009. The award is shared with two other authors: William R. Morrison (University of Northern British Columbia) and Greg Poelzer (University of the Arctic and University of Saskatchewan). The book examines the history and future of the Arctic and argues for urgent political and environmental action to protect its resources and establish sovereignty.

Kevin Harrigan (Drama and Speech Communication) published a peer-reviewed article in the highly respected International Journal of Mental Health and Addiction and succeeded in securing research grants amounting to $644,000.

Ken Hirschkop (English) has been awarded a $66,799 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) standard research grant (2009-2011), to fund a project entitled “HistoriCity: Self-Narration and Dream-Image in Toronto, 1899-Present.”

Marcel O’Gorman (English) was awarded a $450,000 grant from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI). The CFI-funded infrastructure enables O’Gorman and Colin Ellard (Psychology) to advance collaborative research projects using mobile media, biometrics, and visualization technologies. Both researchers probe the interaction of the body with new technologies, particularly the relationship between digital visualization techniques, physical mobility, and physical and mental health. Their work explores digital media’s impact on culture, society, and the human condition.

Jill Tomasson Goodwin (Drama) and David Goodwin (Drama) were both promoted in early 2009. Tomasson Goodwin is now the director of research for Waterloo’s Stratford Institute funded by CECR (Centres of Excellence in Commercialization and Research), and Goodwin is the director of research commercialization for arts (DRCA). These promotions reflect their outstanding success with raising research funds for various projects that connect innovative digital media technologies with theatrical productions while exploring their broader commercial potential.

Conference for Accounting and Finance students focused on personal brand

This fall, the School of Accounting and Finance (SAF) met the challenges of today’s competitive marketplace head-on at the 2009 Professional Futures Conference (PFC).

The focus of the event, for second-year students in the Accounting and Financial Management, Computing and Financial Management, Math/CA, and Biotech/CA programs, was personal branding.

With the global economic downturn, students face stiffer challenges than ever before in finding co-op positions and permanent full-time employment. The conference helped students hone the skills they need to “professionally exemplify the Waterloo identity and be confident managers of their own unique personal brand.”

The conference was sponsored by the international staffing firm of Robert Half. Connie Stamper, Waterloo branch manager of Robert Half Canada Inc., and an expert in the accounting and finance job market, “de-mystified job descriptions, helped students master accounting and finance resumés, and coached them in handling behavioural, introspective, and conversational interview situations.”

FACULTY RETIREMENTS

The Faculty of Arts expresses its sincerest gratitude for the many contributions by the following recent faculty retirees:

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jeremy Anglin</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mariela Gutiérrez</td>
<td>Spanish and Latin American Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hildy Ross</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
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<td>Maarten Van Dijk</td>
<td>Drama and Speech Communication</td>
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FACULTY NEWS

Conference for Accounting and Finance students focused on personal brand

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Keynote speaker Mike Tennant, writer and co-creator of CBC Radio’s *The Age of Persuasion*, gave students a tour of the world of television and radio advertising ‘greats and gaffs,’ with the purpose of guiding students as they craft their own authentic pieces of personal marketing literature this fall – namely, winning cover letters and résumés.

Famous for their pitch, “How to Win Friends and Influence People,” Dale Carnegie Business Group offered tips on how students can build meaningful and lasting professional relationships in the industry.

The tightly-packed schedule included simulated interviews, résumé writing, interview skills workshops, business etiquette talks, and personal image consulting. “We wanted students to come away knowing how to develop co-op job search and application strategies based on a realistic assessment of employer needs, market realities, and of their own unique capabilities, traits, and values,” says Donna Psutka (BMath ’80), who is the director of Waterloo’s Bachelor of Accounting and Financial Management program.

This year’s event is now a memory, and plans are underway for the 2010 edition. SAF alumni are invited to assist by acting as interviewers in simulated interviews, participating in workshop sessions, or serving as resources throughout the event. If you’d like to put your experience and expertise to good use for the benefit of the next generation of SAF students, contact Lynn Graham, student relations coordinator, at L2graham@uwaterloo.ca.

**Classics conference focuses on the Hellenistic period**

In August 2008, the Department of Classical Studies played host to a gathering of international scholars who took part in a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)-funded academic workshop on the theme *Belonging and Isolation in the Hellenistic World*. Visitors from elsewhere in Canada, the United States, Germany, and the UK participated in this conference, the first of what the department hopes will become a series of academic gatherings with a focus on the Hellenistic period (the era between the death of Alexander the Great in 323 BCE and the death of Cleopatra VII in 30 BCE). The theme for this inaugural conference asked participants to refract their understanding of the Hellenistic world through the lens of the concepts of belonging and isolation, of inclusion and exclusion, of ethnic identity, and what it meant to be “Greek” in a newly cosmopolitan world in the wake of Alexander’s unprecedented conquests. Papers were heard on a variety of topics: the creation of new kingdoms and the legitimation of new dynasties; the response of poets and artists to cultural innovations and their role in creating those innovations; the lives of “ordinary people” in a world now dominated by a powerful elite; and the clash of different ethnic groups as they struggled to formulate their own identity and find their place in the predominantly Greco-Roman Hellenistic Mediterranean.

The organizers of the workshop were professors Sheila Ager, Riemer Faber, Craig Hardiman, and Christina Vester; Laura Roncone (BA ’08), who is currently enrolled in the Classical Studies master’s program, and Mike Moloney (BA ’08) contributed their willing energies and helped to make the gathering a great success.

**English PhD student wins prestigious Vanier Scholarship**

Danila Sokolov, a PhD student in the English Language and Literature department, has won a prestigious Vanier Scholarship for his dissertation project on “Re-inscribing medieval poetics in the English Renaissance: towards an archaeology of poetic discourse, 1380-1600.”

The Vanier Scholarships are a new federal award open to non-Canadian doctoral students studying in Canada (as well as to Canadians) and are worth $50,000 a year for up to three years. This year, Danila won one of just two Vanier Scholarships that were awarded to doctoral candidates in English country-wide. Danila has a specialist degree, *cum laude*, in English Studies, and a Kandidat Nauk (graduate degree) in Comparative Literature, both from St. Petersburg State University, Russia. His research interests include early modern non-dramatic poetry, critical theory, film theory, and psychoanalysis and hermeneutics.
English looks to the future, celebrates the past

Many of the programs offered by English at Waterloo are unique in Canada, but it wasn’t always that way. English studies began at Waterloo as an undergraduate major modelled on those at Toronto and Oxford. As it happens, in 2010 the department will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary, and many wonderful events are planned just for this milestone. On looking back, what stands out is how much the study of English at Waterloo has evolved over the last 50 years. As the department looks to next year’s celebrations, it is worth considering what this evolution means for the future of the department, and for English studies in Canada.

It was in September 1960 that Keith Thomas joined the fledgling University of Waterloo and the history of the department began. English developed an honours degree centred on a canon of traditional male authors and focused on practical criticism and the history of British Literature, studied period by period. While in the 1980s many English departments in Canada moved towards a cultural studies approach that abandoned this historical emphasis, Waterloo took a different path, extending its emphasis on literary history to encompass the historical study of language. These innovations in the literature curriculum eventually led to a fresh curricular initiative: the adoption in 1986, under the leadership of then-chair Gordon Slethaug, of what was at first called a Rhetoric and Technical Writing option and then a Rhetoric and Professional Writing degree. With this new interest in the millennia-old tradition of the study of persuasive communication, the department’s undergraduate offerings coalesced around the history and the theory of language in all its manifestations: literary, commercial, and everything in between. This joint focus can best be seen in their newest undergraduate degree in Literary, Commercial, and Everything in Between. This joint focus that way. English studies began at Waterloo as an undergraduate major modelled on those at Toronto and Oxford. As it happens, in 2010 the department will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary, and many wonderful events are planned just for this milestone. On looking back, what stands out is how much the study of English at Waterloo has evolved over the last 50 years. As the department looks to next year’s celebrations, it is worth considering what this evolution means for the future of the department, and for English studies in Canada.

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But innovation has arguably been even more remarkable with the development of Waterloo’s graduate degrees. In 1990, with the introduction of a PhD, unique in Canada, that bridged rhetoric and literature, and the addition of an MA degree in Language and Professional Writing (now Rhetoric and Communication Design) a few years before that, English consolidated its profile and began building a legacy of outstanding excellence in graduate research. Today their graduate programs are thriving, with about 10 new PhDs and 30 new MAs joining their scholarly community every year. Meanwhile, they continue to probe the frontiers of their discipline – no less than three new programs are currently up for approval, or have been approved. There are two new undergraduate specializations, one in English Literature in a Global Context, and the other in Digital Media Studies, that will roll out starting September 2010. And there is a new MA program proposed in Experimental Digital Media. If adopted, this MA will place the study of new media within the larger literary and rhetorical enterprise and allow students to explore the artistic and persuasive dimensions of digital communication. The new Critical Media Lab in Kitchener, under the leadership of English professor Marcel O’Gorman, is one key to this new enterprise.

It’s an exciting time for Waterloo English – a department that at least one person has called “the English department of the future.” Here’s to its next 50! For details on the 50th anniversary celebrations, visit english50th.uwaterloo.ca.

Official launch of Critical Media Lab

On September 15, 2009, the Department of English hosted the official launch of the Critical Media Lab (CML), directed by Professor Marcel O’Gorman.

Currently located in downtown Kitchener, the CML is a research/creation initiative founded in the English department that supports new media projects investigating the impact of technology on society and the human condition. This fall, the lab will host a number of research projects and creative endeavours by Waterloo faculty, in addition to a research/creation project by visiting artist/researcher Ron Broglio. The lab also engages in community outreach, which explains the importance of its downtown location.

The lab is serving as headquarters for the biennial arts festival of the Contemporary Arts Forum Kitchener and Area (CAFKA). CAFKA artist Isabella Stefanescu has installed an interactive video in the front window of the lab that relies on facial recognition technology. On September 24th, the CML began hosting an experimental theatre piece called Edna, directed by Waterloo Drama professor Andy Houston. Other events this fall include an exhibition of eco-critical work that includes video, mixed media on paper, and a large-scale projection on City Hall’s Berlin Tower. Research projects being conducted in the lab range from philosophical investigations of the human/machine/animal interface, to the development of a mobile gaming platform for an obesity research project.

For additional information, including updates on the projects mentioned here, please visit the CML website at criticalmedia.uwaterloo.ca, or contact Marcel O’Gorman at marcel@uwaterloo.ca.
Fine Arts grad wins prestigious BFA award

Matt Schust (BA '09, Fine Arts) was a fourth-year honours studio student when he won the prestigious BFA Now 2009 Painting award. Five winners were picked out of a total of 157 entries from South America, North America, and Europe. Schust was one of only two Canadian winners, the others being from Denmark, the United States, and Columbia.

The BFA Now award is an international juried competition, dedicated to the support and promotion of emerging artists. There is also an MFA Now competition for graduate students. The programs are the vision of Adam Rogers, a successful telecommunications entrepreneur who wanted to create an international award that recognizes excellence in the arts and the important contribution that young artists make to the fabric of global society.

The award includes an exhibition in New York City. Schust saw signs for the competition around the Fine Arts department, but didn’t think too seriously about applying as it was a busy time of year, and it was such a long shot. But the thought of an exhibition in New York kept on nagging him, and with low expectations, he submitted his application on the last day. “It was the possibility of a show in New York that really inspired me. I don’t know one artist or aspiring artist who wouldn’t want that opportunity,” says Schust. “Months later, when I found out I had won, I was in total shock. I’m still trying to make sense of being a winner of this award. It feels totally surreal.”

Schust submitted images of four of his recent paintings for the competition. He chose works he felt were challenging and critically engaging – works that showed his understanding of art history and contemporary art practice, rather than being merely decorative.

The special features of the Fine Arts department, including extensive one-on-one time with faculty, the interaction between undergraduate and graduate students, visiting artists, and group critiques were important to Schust’s development. “The faculty is very knowledgeable and accomplished themselves, and they have a lot to offer in terms of fostering young artists,” he says. “Fine Arts at Waterloo is a great program, and I genuinely can’t say enough good things about my experience there.”

Germanic and Slavic Studies celebrates its graduate students

With five prestigious scholarships and two teaching awards going to its graduate students this year, the Germanic and Slavic Studies (GSS) department has a lot to celebrate.

“A good scholarship provides independent confirmation of a student’s impressive record and demonstrates that the student’s project merits respect and interest,” says James Skidmore, GSS department chair. “Likewise, a teaching award conveys to the wider world that the student has developed some mastery of one of the hardest jobs there is: helping others to learn.”

The diversity of the award winners’ interests and abilities is remarkable. Myriam Fleischer (MA ’05), winner of a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) doctoral fellowship, is studying the intersection of contemporary German literature and German politics. Kyle Scholz (BA ’08) and Jillian Randall both won SSHRC master’s scholarships, facilitating a term of study at Waterloo’s partner university in Germany. Scholz’s thesis will explore anxiety in second language acquisition, and Randall’s will be examining the representation of Austrian identity in the media.

Two other MA students won the equally competitive Ontario Graduate Scholarship. Steve Westerla will use the award to support his research on a character in Mikahil Bulgakov’s novel The Master and Margarita, and Christine Kampen-Robinson will be able to spend time in Winnipeg investigating code-switching at a German bilingual school. Kampen-Robinson is also the recipient of the German-Canadian Studies Fellowship.

In addition to research, the department’s graduate program places great emphasis on teacher training. Their students love to teach, and the department does everything it can to provide them with the skills and the tools they need to be successful in the language and culture classroom. Master’s candidate Kaitlyn Lankin (BA ’07) won, not one, but two teaching awards; the Warren Ober Award for Outstanding Teaching by a Graduate Student in the Faculty of Arts, and the Award for Exceptional Teaching by a Student, one of only four Waterloo students so honoured this year. Doctoral candidate Mareike Mueller was singled out by Waterloo’s Centre for Teaching Excellence for an award marking her outstanding performance in the Certificate in University Teaching program. This coming year Mueller will work at the Centre as an international teaching assistant developer, helping teaching assistants from non-Canadian educational systems gain familiarity with Waterloo’s teaching and learning culture.
**Philosophy enjoys active research**

The Philosophy department has enjoyed a very active research program over the past year, thanks to the many organizers and participants. In addition to the usual complement of graduate seminars and a stimulating colloquium series, the department was involved in many special events and extra-curricular research opportunities.

Two faculty-led reading groups consistently drew participants in 2008/09: the Latin Reading Group, organized by Shannon Dea, and the Naturalism Reading Group, organized by Doreen Fraser. The latter group focused on reading the draft of a forthcoming book by University of California philosopher of mathematics, Penelope Maddy. The group’s work culminated with a visit by Maddy, who gave one talk at the Philosophy department and another talk at the Perimeter Institute, which co-sponsored her visit.

The Philosophy graduate students presented their annual conference with a slate of outstanding papers from local, national, and international speakers. Professor Sanford Goldberg (Northwestern) delivered the keynote lecture on social epistemology.

Philosophy professor Chris Eliasmith oversaw another successful *Brain Day*, an annual event of Waterloo’s Centre for Theoretical Neuroscience that brings together not just researchers from four brain-related disciplines, but also public and academic audiences. This year, attendees were treated to lectures in philosophy, computer science, psychology, and neuroscience, by speakers Lawrence Barsalou (Emory University), John Hopfield (Princeton University), Jesse Prinz (UNC Chapel Hill), and David Sheinberg (Brown University).

Things slowed down, but did not stop in the summer, with Dea co-organizing the interdisciplinary conference *Disorderly Conduct*, where faculty and graduate students from Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier University joined with international scholars from a range of disciplines to examine the concepts and practices of categorizing disorders in the health care professions and beyond.

**Psychology professor wins Top Achievement in Health Research Award**

Geoffrey Fong, professor of Psychology at Waterloo, received the 2009 Top Achievement in Health Research Award.

The Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) and the Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ) hold the Top Achievements in Health Research competition to acknowledge Canadian health research achievements. This award is specifically focused on achievements that have had a significant impact on health, health care, and health research by improving the understanding of health and human diseases, tackling health challenges, and improving the health system.

Fong is founder and chief principal investigator of the International Tobacco Control Policy Evaluation Project (ITC Project), a collaboration of over 80 researchers across 20 countries, which is conducting parallel research to evaluate the psychosocial and behavioural impact of tobacco control policies of the World Health Organization (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC), the first-ever treaty devoted to health. This research and award is in collaboration with Waterloo’s Mary Thompson, professor of Statistics and Actuarial Science, and David Hammond, assistant professor of Health Studies and Gerontology.

The reviewer comments on Fong’s application noted that evidence based policy for tobacco control is an “enormously important issue with global impact.”

**Book describes science of way-finding**

In April 2009, Colin Ellard, associate professor in the Psychology department, published a book for general audiences entitled *Where am I? Why we can find our way to the moon but get lost at the mall* (HarperCollins Canada, 2009).

Ellard’s book describes the science of way-finding, but he also writes about how the manner in which we see and move through spaces influences our architecture, urban planning, cyberculture, and our connections with our natural environment. In collaboration with the University of Waterloo’s Bookstore and the publisher, the Psychology department held a very successful campus launch event in May. The book continues to garner good reviews and media attention both nationally and internationally; you can follow this activity at the following website, www.colinellard.com.

The Spanish and Latin American Studies department recently celebrated the retirement of two of its long-time faculty members.

In July 2008, Antonio Fama’s retirement was marked with the Antonio Fama Scholarship, a yearly departmental award that will honour both him and a superior student within the department. Fama was granted the title of Professor Emeritus, and now that he is retired, he dedicates all his free time to writing fiction. His novel, *La Stanza Segreta*, has just been translated into English and bears the title *The Secret Room* (LEGAS).

Mariela Gutiérrez’s retirement was celebrated in December 2008, and she was formally recognized during the fall 2009 convocation ceremonies. Her departure was marked with the granting of the title Distinguished professor Emerita. Gutiérrez’s decision to retire early was brought about when she was awarded a grant from the government of Mexico to participate in a three- to four-year project in the southern region of Oaxaca.

**Remembering a former student and colleague**

The Spanish and Latin American Studies department would like to establish a new undergraduate award, The Laura López Kok Memorial Scholarship, in Spanish and Latin American Studies, in honour of former student and, later, colleague, Laura López Kok (BA ’96 Spanish/Sociology). Her sudden passing in the fall of 2006 has left a great void, and her husband, along with the department, would like to honour her memory. For more information on contributing to this scholarship, please contact Monica Leoni at mleoni@uwaterloo.ca.

**1963**

Jacob Brubacher (BA ‘63 Geography) retired this year from a self-employed career and moved to Campbeltown, Ontario. “I’m looking forward to spending more time golfing, curling, playing baseball, and working on acreage I have nearby,” he says.

**1966**

Roderic Graham Ferguson (BA ’66), a senior partner with Ferguson Barristers LLP, also offers mediation services through a firm called LLEARNED MEDIATION (www.learnmed.ca). He received his Master of Laws degree from York University specializing in alternate dispute resolution. From 2008 to 2009, Roderic served as secretary for the Ontario Bar Association (OBA), and he is currently running for election for Professional Development Chair for the OBA for 2009 to 2010. In a peer review published by Martindale-Hubbell, he received the “Highest Rating in Legal Ability & Ethical Standards.”

rgfqc@csolve.net

**1978**

In the fall of 2008, David Milne (BA ’78) was appointed senior financial co-ordinator to the assistant deputy minister (Finance & Corporate Services), National Defence. In 1985, David received a CMA. “I was in the first class in Canada to be awarded the designation Chartered Public Financial Accountant (CPFA),” says David.

DAMilne@rogers.com

With a previously published and produced musical, a feature film, and non-fiction books, Peter Tassi (BA ’78 Religious Studies) and his sister Filomena Tassi (BA ’83 Philosophy, St. Jerome’s) are hoping for an even better year in 2009. Two screenplays are optioned for production this year, and in August, their latest non-fiction book was released by Paulist Press USA; it is entitled, *Greatness in Our Teenagers, A Ten Stop Guide for Parents & Educators*. As well, this fall Peter and co-author Sharon Boase will be releasing a book entitled *Hamilton Heroes*, a collection of stories of twelve WWII vets.

www.petertassi.com

John Rafferty (BA ’78 Drama) and his daughter Zara Rafferty (BA ’07, MA ’09 Recreation & Leisure Studies) are both off on new adventures – John as the Member of Parliament for Thunder Bay Rainy River, and Zara is headed to teacher’s college at Wilfrid Laurier University. “Both of us enjoyed our time at Waterloo and appreciate the solid educational foundation we received as we continue down the path of lifelong learning,” says John.

raffej@parl.gc.ca

zara_rafferty@hotmail.com
1980

Susan Holmes (BA ’80 English) writes to us from PEI, where she works with the Department of Education as a cross-cultural counselling specialist. “This position was developed to help ease the transitional demands for a recent population of newcomers, to life and education in the small province of PEI,” says Susan, who is currently working on her PhD through distance education in Australia. “I miss Waterloo a great deal, and I remember Stan Fogel, Eric McCormack, and Doug Letson, as a few of my memorable instructors,” she says. “I also went to high school in Kitchener-Waterloo, and Oktoberfest was always fun.”

saholmes@edu.pe.ca

1983

Larry Aberle (BA ’83 Economics) retired five years ago from the now closed frame plant in Kitchener formerly known as Budd Canada, where he worked as a die-setter. Since retirement, he keeps himself busy: he is the president of the local riding association for the Kitchener-Waterloo New Democratic Party, treasurer of St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, and secretary-treasurer of CAW 1451 Retirees, the Canadian Auto Workers union. “To a large extent, my time at the University of Waterloo was part-time,” says Larry, “and I have little contact with people who took courses with me over the years. A couple of years ago, I did take some history courses for interest from Professor Catherine Briggs.”

landkaberle@sympatico.ca

1985

Theresa Anzovino (BA ’85 Sociology) graduated from York University with her MA in 1995, and after 20 years of working in the field of refugee protection she started a new career. In September 2006, Theresa started working at the Niagara College campus located in Niagara-on-the-Lake, as a full-time professor of sociology and co-ordinator of General Arts & Science. “My great years in sociology at St. Jerome’s inspired me to make this career change,” says Theresa. “And my son Daniel hopes to become a second generation UW graduate in the kinesiology program. They were magical years in my own life, and I’m sure they will be for him, as well.”

tanzovino@niagaracollege.ca

Since graduating with her MA degree from Waterloo, Rachel Smith-Spencer (BA ’85 English, MA ’88 English) has spent her career primarily in the field of arts management, with tenures at the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, the Toronto Symphony, and for the past five seasons, the Stratford Shakespeare Festival where she currently serves as the director of the advancement (fundraising) department. “I belong to a book club with several friends from UW who now live throughout Ontario, but we come together monthly,” says Rachel.

rss7437@rogers.com

1986

Don Drews (BA ’86) is an intermediate teacher with Mentor College in Mississauga. In the summer of 2008, parents of his class commemorated his 20th year of teaching by sending him and his wife on an all-inclusive Baltic Sea cruise, including three days in London, aboard the Royal Caribbean’s Jewel of the Seas. “This, our first cruise, truly was our trip of a lifetime (so far),” says Don.

d_drews@hotmail.com

1987

Nancy Bradley (Clouston, BA ’87 English) received her BEd from Atlantic Baptist University in 2005, and her MEd from Mount Saint Vincent University in 2008, while working full-time. After working in administration for several years, she took the plunge and made a significant career change. Initially, she accepted a position as an instructor in the business department of New Brunswick Community College, Moncton. Following this, Nancy started her master’s degree and was immediately hired by APSEA (Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority) as an itinerant teacher for students who are blind or visually impaired. Her students range in age from birth through to high school, and many of them have multiple disabilities. Nancy says that one of her greatest challenges and accomplishments (besides working while going to school) has been learning to read braille visually.

nancy.bradley2@nbed.nb.ca

Peter Turkstra (BA ’87 Economics) and his wife Karen Turkstra (Mitchell, BA ’86 Economics) met at Waterloo when they were undergraduate students enrolled in the same program. They live near Dundas, Ontario, with their two daughters, Sarah (16) and Laura (14). In December 2008, Peter participated in a ski trip to the South Pole in support of local kids’ programs, where the group raised $600,000. Inspired by the successful North Pole expedition in 2006, where the group raised half a million dollars for children’s charities, they set out for the Antarctica on the Top of the World for Charity expedition in early December. For more information, visit southpoleforkids.ca.

pturkstra@sympatico.ca

While on a ski trip in Ellicottville, NY, in January 2009, Karen and Peter met Bob Kerton (Professor Emeritus, Economics), centre, quite by accident in a local restaurant.

1990

Now a freelance writer and editor of an Ottawa-based cultural magazine called Guerilla (www.getguerilla.ca), Tony Martins (BA ’90 English, MA ’92 English) tells us that he’s using the broad-based communication skills — and the powers of persuasion — that he first acquired at Waterloo, on an everyday basis. “My curiosity for everything arts-related is as
strong as it was as an undergrad,” says Tony. “I also work individually with blocked or frustrated individuals as a creativity coach.”

On August 23, 2009, Tony married Cristina Greco. (Editor’s Note: Congratulations, Tony and Cristina).

www.tonymartins.ca

1991
Samuel Truax (BA ’91 History) is the art director for marketing with Preferred Nutrition, an exclusive company for health food stores. He is married with two daughters and loves photography and travel.

struax@pmo.ca

1993
Melissa Doherty (BA ’93 Fine Arts Studio) exhibits regularly in Toronto at the Edward Day Gallery. Her most recent show was very favourably reviewed in the Globe and Mail (June 20, 2009) by art critic Gary Michael Dault, who defines Melissa’s work as “forceful” and the exhibition a “tour de force.”

mdoherty@golden.net

1995
Charmaine Hammond (BA ’95 Social Development Studies) completed an MA in Conflict Analysis & Management (MACAM) in 2002 through Royal Roads University, BC. Since 1997, she has been an entrepreneur, owning Hammond Mediation & Consulting Group Inc., and Hammond Employment Services. As a professional international speaker, consultant, trainer, and facilitator, Charmaine has worked with many organizations building healthy and effective teams and workplaces. In 2008, she facilitated a training program for managers (on the topic of conflict resolution) in Singapore and Malaysia, and this year, she will be travelling to Thailand for another international facilitation contract. One of Charmaine’s passions is writing, and in 2008, she accomplished her goal of writing five e-books. Community involvement is important to Charmaine, and with her dog Toby, she volunteers at a local hospital. “Toby is a pet-assisted therapy dog and has been the inspiration of some of my writings,” she says, “and has brought joy to the many patients he visits.” Charmaine resides in Saskatoon with her husband Darren and their one-year-old daughter Emma.

www.hammondgroup.biz

1996
Marketing classes and co-op placements from her degree program led Tina Haessler (BA ’96 German/Applied Studies Co-op/International Trade Specialization) to pursue a career in advertising. For the past 12 years she has been working at Toronto-based advertising agencies managing national communications programs for blue chip clients. “In 2008, I decided to pursue my creative side more and launched my own home-staging business called Bloom Home Staging & Redesign,” she says. “I decorate homes to sell and help solve everyday design dilemmas through redesign consultations.” Tina lives in Toronto with her husband Peter, son Sebastian (3), and daughter Amelia (1).

www.bloomstaging.ca

Since completing her PhD in 2006, Carrie Prefontaine (BA ’96) has been teaching at the University of Saskatchewan, where she is an instructor and online facilitator for Women’s and Gender Studies at the Centre for Continuing and Distance Education. She lives in Saskatoon with her husband Darren and their one-year-old daughter Emma.

2003
Laurie Martindale (BA ’03) credits a Waterloo course with finding her dream job. She writes: “In my last year at Waterloo, I took Issues in Canadian Criminal Law with Kathleen Nolan, a class that was exceptionally energizing for...
**CLASS notes continued**

2004

**Billi Grisdale-Briski** (BA ’04 English, MA ’05 English) has been teaching English part-time at the post-secondary level at the Sault College and Algoma University, located in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. She was recently married and bought her first home. Billi tells us that she is considering doing a PhD.

After attending teacher’s college at Lakehead University, **Heather Plumley** (Baese, BA ’04 Psychology) opened up her own preschool in Port Rowan, Ontario, where she currently sees 25 students per week. On July 12, 2008, she married Matt Plumley, who is employed as a carpenter. “This new life is very rewarding!” says Heather.

2006

Upon graduation from Waterloo, **Isaac Acquah** (BA ’06 Economics) received a job offer from the YMCA as a career facilitator for the Career Cruiser program, a mobile resource centre which is funded by Employment Ontario and managed by the YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington. As part of the funding requirement, he was to see at least 5,000 clients each year. Some of his responsibilities included identifying employment barriers facing youth and new immigrants, and to assist them with resume writing, cover letters, interview preparation, career exploration, and job search. The Career Cruiser travelled to surrounding areas of Hamilton to deliver these services, and they visited high schools to facilitate workshops. “On average, we assisted and served 100 - 160 clients a week, which included those who attended workshops, dropped by the Career Cruiser, and, of course, all the students we saw at the schools,” says Isaac. “The education I received from Waterloo has gone a long way to help me succeed on the job.” Isaac’s role with the YMCA has recently changed: he is now working in the Newcomer Information Centre for youth programs. “I’m doing the same things as I did on the Cruiser;” he says, “only the target is now newcomers to Canada.”

**Susy Oliveira** (MFA ’06) was accepted into the 2009 CAFKA (Contemporary Art Forum Kitchener and Area) exhibition, which took place in Kitchener this fall. The theme for this year’s Biennial was “veracity.” Artists were asked to consider the idea of veracity in the materials of art-making, in the thematic and conceptual concerns of their practice, or to consider experimental implications of truth and uncertainty in art. Twenty-six projects by national and international artists were chosen for the event.

[www.susyoliveira.ca](http://www.susyoliveira.ca)

2007

It took **Charlotte Allard** (BA ’07) sixteen years to complete her degree by distance education. She started taking courses while serving as a Waterloo Regional Police Officer for 11 years. Charlotte resigned from the police force after the birth of her first child and continued taking courses. In August 2007, she started a second career — she enrolled in the first class of the satellite campus for McMaster School of Medicine, and now in her second year, she starts clerkship in Waterloo Region. “Clerkship follows our classroom learning,” explains Charlotte. “We are in the hospitals and doctors’ offices doing rotations in all of the specialties (i.e., surgery, peds, OB/GYN, family, emergency, etc.). After 15 months of classroom learning, clerkship is approximately 17 months.” Charlotte lives in Kitchener with her husband Mike (a police sergeant), and their two sons, Brett (13) and Brendan (11). “Life is very busy, but I enjoy reading [Arts & Letters],” she says.

2008

**Jamie Maing** (BA ’08 Fine Arts/Arts and Business Co-op/Digital Arts Specialization) writes to us from Scarborough where he works as a web designer for the BMO Financial Group and does some freelance work on the side. “I got engaged to my lovely Sarah, and our wedding date is set for June 27, 2010,” says Jamie. “Oh, and got a car of my own!”

**Colin Carney** (MFA ’09) won the top award in photography in the digitally altered category of the annual Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition this year. This is a juried exhibition with over 500 artists and 100,000 visitors. The recognition places him in a group exhibition of award winners at First Canadian Place Gallery, in Toronto, in January 2010.

[www.colincarney.com](http://www.colincarney.com)
In Memoriam

The Faculty of Arts expresses deepest sympathy to the family and friends of the following graduates who have passed away:

- **Gregory Johnston**, BA ’69 Sociology
- **Mery Leong**, BA ’88 Classical Studies
- **Dixena McEllan**, BA ’85 English
- **Sister Janet Mikol**, BA ’70 English
- **Helen Edythe Nerby**, BA ’08
- **Peter Olinski**, BA ’70 Psychology
- **Dr. R. Patrick Solomon**, BA ’73 Psychology
- **A. Bryan Thorne**, BA ’80

Arts Co-op Student of the Year

This past March, **Renee Smith**, a third-year Political Science student, was named Arts Co-op Student of the Year for 2008. She was hired as a junior policy analyst for the Strategy, Policy and Planning Branch (SPPB) of the Ministry of Government Services, Ontario. Renee conducted research to save both money and energy through the use of information technology and became the resident expert on a technical issue concerning desktop computer power management using remote power down software. She aided the SPPB in adopting a pilot project which is estimated to reduce power consumption by 40 million pounds of CO2 emissions each year, if implemented.

Scott Everingham (MFA ’09) won the top award in the painting category of the annual Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition this year. This is a juried exhibition with over 500 artists and 100,000 visitors. Scott was also a semi-finalist for this year’s 11th RBC Painting Competition which exhibited at the Musée d’art contemporain de Montréal, in October, and The Power Plant contemporary art gallery, in Toronto, in November. His new solo show entitled Stephen Smart Presents: Smart Art Projects #5, exhibited in November 2009, at Paul Petro Special Projects, in Toronto. www.scotteveringham.com

Arts alumni sings the praises of Waterloo Co-op!

Liz Hong-Farrell has a long history with Waterloo Co-op. She was a Co-op student herself and continues to sing its praises as a Co-op employer and strong supporter.

How have you benefited as a Co-op employer?

Waterloo Co-op really is a low risk investment. It’s a great way to see how the students fit with the organization. They do the same with us. While that’s happening, they simply get things done. They’re eager and offer a refreshing and youthful perspective.

How does Waterloo stand-out?

Waterloo’s heart is in the program and that’s clear by the support they give both the employers and the students. I’ve hired from other schools but Waterloo’s program is well-developed and better organized. Waterloo is there to guide you through the whole process.

What advice would you give Co-op employers?

Don’t underestimate your Waterloo Co-op student. They can accomplish far more than you’d expect. They’re flexible, adaptable and willing to jump into pretty much any project you have. They’re not afraid to go out of their comfort zone, learn new things and contribute.

Give your Co-op student real work experience. That’s how you get true value out of hiring them and it’s rewarding to watch their confidence grow. I look for students who are eager, creative and can problem solve. I can train them on the job content.

Any last words for other Alumni?

Hire a Waterloo Co-op student if you can. Even if you can’t, encourage people in your network to hire!

HIRE A CO-OP STUDENT

CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION & CAREER SERVICES

Hire a Co-op Student

About Liz

Liz is the Acting Director, Grants & Contributions Policy with Human Resources and Skills Development Canada in Ottawa, Ontario. She graduated from the University of Waterloo in 1990 with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology.

Arts Co-op Student of the Year

This past March, Renee Smith, a third-year Political Science student, was named Arts Co-op Student of the Year for 2008. She was hired as a junior policy analyst for the Strategy, Policy and Planning Branch (SPPB) of the Ministry of Government Services, Ontario. Renee conducted research to save both money and energy through the use of information technology and became the resident expert on a technical issue concerning desktop computer power management using remote power down software. She aided the SPPB in adopting a pilot project which is estimated to reduce power consumption by 40 million pounds of CO2 emissions each year, if implemented.

Arts alumni sings the praises of Waterloo Co-op!

Liz Hong-Farrell has a long history with Waterloo Co-op. She was a Co-op student herself and continues to sing its praises as a Co-op employer and strong supporter.

How have you benefited as a Co-op employer?

Waterloo Co-op really is a low risk investment. It’s a great way to see how the students fit with the organization. They do the same with us. While that’s happening, they simply get things done. They’re eager and offer a refreshing and youthful perspective.

How does Waterloo stand-out?

Waterloo’s heart is in the program and that’s clear by the support they give both the employers and the students. I’ve hired from other schools but Waterloo’s program is well-developed and better organized. Waterloo is there to guide you through the whole process.

What advice would you give Co-op employers?

Don’t underestimate your Waterloo Co-op student. They can accomplish far more than you’d expect. They’re flexible, adaptable and willing to jump into pretty much any project you have. They’re not afraid to go out of their comfort zone, learn new things and contribute.

Give your Co-op student real work experience. That’s how you get true value out of hiring them and it’s rewarding to watch their confidence grow. I look for students who are eager, creative and can problem solve. I can train them on the job content.

Any last words for other Alumni?

Hire a Waterloo Co-op student if you can. Even if you can’t, encourage people in your network to hire!
Rob Macisaac graduated from the University of Waterloo in 1984 with a BA in Economics. He received his Bachelor of Laws from the University of Western Ontario in 1987, and an honorary PhD from Charles Sturt University in recognition of community service in 2005.

Rob began his law career first in Toronto, then in Burlington where he managed MacIsaac & MacIsaac, a firm of four lawyers, while practicing real estate, business law, and estate planning. In 1991, he entered the public sector where he served as an alderman and regional councillor to the City of Burlington and Halton Region. He designed and led a number of innovative planning procedures aimed at achieving effective community input, and co-authored a paper on effective community consultation, which was ultimately published.

In 1997, Rob was elected mayor of the City of Burlington. During his nine years as mayor, he led city council through three strategic planning exercises, nine consecutive budgets, a significant period of infrastructure renewal, and the rebranding of Burlington's image. His work on the reinvigoration of Burlington's downtown resulted in the project receiving numerous awards and recognition in areas of urban planning, architectural design, and waterfront revitalization, as well as an international Excellence on the Waterfront Award (2005).

Rob stepped down as mayor when Premier McGuinty asked him to head the creation of Metrolinx, the new Ontario Crown Corporation designed to co-ordinate transportation in the Greater Toronto Hamilton Area (GTHA). During his three-year tenure as executive chair with Metrolinx, Rob developed the first ever regional transportation plan for the GTHA. He remains chair of this Crown Corporation charged with the awesome responsibility of implementing The Big Move beginning with a $9 billion capital budget.

On February 1, 2009, Rob was appointed the seventh president of Hamilton's Mohawk College. With his experience, success, and passion in building communities, "Rob brings impressive credentials to his new post at Mohawk," says Bryan Adamczyk, Mohawk's board chair.

Born in Hamilton and raised in Burlington, where he now resides with his wife Anne (Wood) MacIsaac (BA ’86 Economics/ Applied Studies Co-op), Rob enjoys golfing and curling. He is also the lead singer in a garage band called Slow Monday, and a sometimes chef, “none of which could possibly garner a wage given my at best mediocre skills in any of these,” says Rob.

Arts & Letters caught up with Rob to talk about his Waterloo experience and his career path from the public sector to leadership of a post-secondary institution.

Can you reflect on your experience as an undergraduate student at Waterloo?

I have the fondest memories from those days as an undergraduate. I was exposed to a number of new ideas and had endless discussions about them with fellow students. It was great fun. I have a vague recollection of a place called The Bombshelter that played Sympathy for the Devil at least once every time I was there. Despite being in a large university, I was able to develop personal relationships with many of my professors – people like Emanuel Carvalho, John English, and John Stubbs. I also met my wife Anne at Waterloo. We were enrolled in the same program.

How do you feel your education at Waterloo impacted your career?

My education at Waterloo was superb. I was a student in the Applied Studies Co-op program, now called Arts and Business Co-op. While my major was in economics, I received an incredibly well-rounded education which left me well prepared for a huge variety of career choices, including law school four years later. It was a great mix of courses that gave me both practical tools and a solid philosophical framework. I wanted to go to law school from the moment I arrived at Waterloo, so I knew my academic work was preparatory for a law career. In addition, my co-op terms introduced me to corporate Canada – contacts I still have today after all these years. Economics and law proved to be a very potent combination for a career in public service.

Your career has moved in very interesting and different directions. Can you tell us about some of the initiatives that you have been involved in?

For me, law was a great education, but practicing law was less interesting. So while I started out in law, it wasn’t long before I realized that my future lay in public service. My career has focused on bringing people and institutions together.
After first being elected as a councillor, I became a keen student of cities, and in particular, successful downtowns. This led me to focus on bringing life to Burlington’s downtown waterfront. In the municipal world, this has meant a regional approach to city building. My curiosity about great cities ultimately led me to consider the functioning of city regions and more particularly the Greater Toronto Hamilton Area.

As a result, I have been very involved in formulating a number of provincial strategic growth management policies like the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, the Greenbelt, and The Big Move (the regional transportation plan for Greater Toronto and Hamilton).

My interests were not just about planning, though. During my term as mayor, I established and led a community-based project to create Burlington’s Carpenter Hospice, a residential style facility caring for people in the final stages of their lives. This was an incredibly meaningful project for me because of the way the Hospice touches people’s lives. I also helped create the Burlington Community Foundation which raised over a million dollars toward its endowment and many other related community activities by creating a mayor’s gala.

Throughout your career, you have received numerous awards and accolades. Can you reflect on some of the more meaningful ones?

I was honoured with the Paul Harris Fellowship in recognition of my work with the Rotary Clubs of Burlington in establishing the Carpenter Hospice. This award was very important to me because the project itself meant so much.

While I served as the mayor of Burlington, Premier McGuinty appointed me to chair the Greenbelt Task Force which made recommendations and established the founding principles for Ontario’s award-winning Greenbelt Plan. In recognition of this work, I received the Urban Leadership Award. This awards program is an annual initiative of the Canadian Urban Institute (CUI) designed to recognize those who have made significant contributions to improving the quality of life in Canada’s cities and urban regions. More recently, I also received the Friend of the Greenbelt Award from the Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation for the same work. In my view, The Greenbelt is a very significant legacy for future generations, and so I appreciate this recognition a great deal.

How does your current position as president of Mohawk College relate to the career path that you have pursued?

I am deeply interested in working in post-secondary education, and for Mohawk College in particular, because it is so important to our community’s success. Building successful communities is my passion, and it is why I have worked in the public sector for the past 17 years. Leading a college of the size and calibre of Mohawk, and working with its highly-respected administration, faculty, and support staff, is a prized addition to the work I have been engaged in thus far in my career. As it grows, Mohawk will make an enormous difference to the social, cultural, and economic prosperity in Hamilton, Brantford, Burlington, and the surrounding communities.

Where do you see the future of post-secondary education? For instance, what do you feel the college systems and universities should contribute?

I see our education system as more of a continuum than a hierarchy. Enhancing the connections between universities and colleges is the future. Students need to be able to traverse all of our institutions with greater ease and having colleges and universities work hand in glove with one another is the key, with each contributing according to their respective strengths. There needs to be a greater modularity to our programs so that students can mix and match according to their interests and plans.

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

Don’t specialize too soon in your studies. A broad liberal arts education prior to whatever specialty you may choose is an invaluable asset. Graduates today will have numerous different jobs and having solid analytical and communication skills is what matters most.
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