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‘Diamond Jubilee’ themed College Dinner - page 8

Front Cover: Reni Moose demonstrates his patriotism as he holds The Queen’s Canadian Diamond Jubilee flag

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www.uwaterloo.ca/renison
Two things I said I would do in my five years as Principal would be to Reach Up and Reach Out.

By Reaching UP, I meant developing a graduate program with graduate students and graduate teaching, expanding research, and increasing our academic publications. Our new, innovative Master of Social Work (MSW) degree is an example of reaching up. It will admit students in August 2012 and be housed in a new building by January 2013. It is the first graduate program in the College’s history, one of the first two non-theological Master’s degrees in any of the four university colleges. We are not stopping there: We are continuing to develop additional graduate programs!

By Reaching OUT, I meant improving our visibility and reaching out to the community by developing new programs like Sakura - our Japanese pre-school Saturday program, and PEAR - our Peer Education At Renison program on Fridays for age 50+ learners. Continuing to reach out, we strengthened our historic link with the Order of St. Lazarus whose work in ecumenical education is well-known and who in turn provided us with a significant bursary for ecumenical education at Renison. On the global front, we created the Renison International office to coordinate and expand our nearly forty international activities and student exchanges around the world. In partnership with the Balsillie School of International Affairs and the Faculty of Arts, we joined the Japan Future Initiatives to support their series of international initiatives and conferences and to enrich our East Asian Studies program.

Nor are we neglecting our conventional teaching programs: because 50% of Renison’s students are in the Department of Social Development Studies (SDS), we developed new program options for our students, increased SDS staff support, and hired new faculty.

In the college, of our twenty full-time Faculty, eight (soon to be nine) have been hired in the last two years. We have improved our web-site, and introduced Facebook and Twitter. We reorganized our English Language Institute and continue to reach out to the community by serving new groups: Renison now teaches English Language courses in Toronto and plans to expand these. In addition, we have developed totally new teaching programs at Renison, like Studies in Islam.

What I thought would take five years, was done in just over two, thanks to a remarkable group of students, staff, and faculty who believe in Renison, its spirit and its tradition and clearly see both the progress we are making and the goals we are setting. Thank you Renison: let’s keep reaching up and reaching out!

Principal and Vice-Chancellor
In 1979, Peter Ringrose and his family, originally from England, moved from Port Hope to Waterloo Region, where he currently resides.

Joining Family and Children’s Services as Supervisor of the Cambridge Office, Peter subsequently became Director of Family Services and, in 1985, Executive Director until his retirement from the agency two years ago. Truly a “community agency,” Family and Children’s Services was a wonderful place for Peter to witness how futures can change for children and families through dedicated workers, incredible foster parents, and unbelievable support from the community in the form of volunteers, donors and advocates. In recent years, post-secondary education has become an achievable goal for more and more youth in the agency’s care, thanks to financial support from the community. Over the last ten years, well over 130 youth have progressed to university or college - some of them to Renison - and into careers they would never, in years past, have dreamed could be a reality for them.

Family and Children’s Services has long been connected to Renison, first through advisory committees, particularly to the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) program, then as a provider of student placements and, recently, as an employer of Renison grads. Thus, when the Chair, Lyn Schumacher, asked if Peter would consider joining the Renison Board in 2007, he was more than happy to accept.

Professor Keith W. Hipel, the Chair of Renison’s Board of Governors, is a recipient of the 2012 Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Eminent Scientist Award, Japan’s highest research prize for international scientists. This is the first time the prize has been awarded to a Canadian academic.

What is unique about this award is that it is presented to accomplished international researchers for the purpose of mentoring younger scientists. In other words, it links first class research with teaching. As part of this award, Keith will be in Japan during March 2013 as well as February and March 2014.

Omedeto Hipel-sensei
“Congratulations Professor Hipel” (in Japanese)

L-R: Peter Ringrose and Keith Hipel at Founders’ Day
Kimie Hara joined the faculty of Renison University College in 2004 as a cross-appointed research professor with the Department of History and the Department of Political Science, University of Waterloo.

Her time at Renison has been very active with research and teaching, and in 2011, she became the Director of the East Asian Studies program. As Director, she gives leadership to faculty teaching Chinese, Japanese, and Korean language and culture courses. In 2011, the new Sakura Japanese Language Pre-School program joined the East Asian Studies Department.

Although her time is very busy with her administrative duties and teaching, Kimie continues to conduct research and make presentations worldwide.

While on a one-year sabbatical (2010-2011), Kimie was based in Japan at the Center for Southeast Asian Studies/Kyoto University for six months and in the Netherlands at the International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS)/University of Amsterdam for three months.

She engaged in her research and various other intellectual activities in several locations in Japan and the Netherlands, as well as in Korea, Vietnam, China, Russia, the USA, Sweden, Austria, and back in Canada. She also appeared in a Japanese documentary TV program on the Japan-Russia territorial dispute (NNN Documentary Series on World War II), wrote articles in Japanese (published by Iwanami-shoten and Fujiwara-shoten), and commented for a Chinese magazine (Sanlian Life Weekly Magazine).

During her sabbatical year, Kimie was awarded the Japan Foundation Fellowship (September 2010), an SSHRC Standard Research Grant (April 2011), and the Salzburg Global Seminar Freeman Fellowship (June 2011).

In 2012, Kimie is to present at international talks, conferences, and workshops while continuing her research on the major regional conflicts in East Asia. She has also received conference grants from the Northeast Asian History Foundation (Korea), the Japan Foundation, and the Centre for International Governance Innovation. She is hosting a series of conferences with international colleagues as well.

Kimie is a management member of the Japan Futures Initiative, a network of scholars and practitioners dedicated to the promotion of the policy-relevant social scientific study of Japan, with an eye toward better understanding challenges that Japan, Canada, and other OECD countries face. The JFI also works to identify opportunities to enhance Canada-Japan cooperation. For more information on the Japan Futures Initiative, visit their website: jfi.uwaterloo.ca

Kimie is the mother of active 4-year-old twins. We are indeed fortunate to have Kimie Hara at Renison University College!
Maria Soklis is a graduate of Renison’s Social Development Studies program, the class of 1991. Maria was a student who would be well remembered by Drs. Smyth, Majonis, and Nagler, indeed well-liked by all faculty and staff. Maria completed field placements with a local counseling agency and with the probation office. Maria was a dedicated student who worked hard to get good marks.

In August of 2009, The Globe and Mail reported Maria’s promotion to Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer of KIA Canada calling her “the first woman ever to join the senior executive ranks at KIA Motors and one of few women in a senior role in the car business anywhere.”

Her “Driving Change” campaign showed Kia employees working with inner city neighbourhoods to make a difference. In one case, the employees helped refurbish a basketball court for the Second Base Youth Centre in Scarborough. In another case, employees helped install new gardens for the residents of Gilder Community Housing in Toronto. Not the type of campaign one would expect. As a Renison grad, Maria is still achieving social development, but now as the head of an automotive corporation.

Maria is an inspiration and a great example to social development students past, present and future.
The Renison Town and Gown Society began in 1994, when Gail Cuthbert Brandt was Principal of the College. Gail asked Renison board member, Mary Guy, to propose ideas on how to engage women’s interest in participating in and supporting the College.

Women in the Anglican community were asked to donate $100 per year to be members of the Town and Gown Society. The money collected was matched by the Ontario Government. The focus was to be on fundraising for scholarships for full- or part-time students who have entered the College by non-traditional routes. This past year, for example, a young African woman arrived in Waterloo with her husband, who is studying for his PhD. She received a $1000 scholarship to help her continue her studies for a Bachelor of Social Work, after the birth of her third child. The fund has also helped to furnish the Town and Gown Study Room in the Academic Centre at Renison.

Membership in the Society stands at almost 100, and the members meet two times a year. The meetings feature a notable speaker from the community and time for the social and business matters of the society. Members are also included in invitations to several special events held at the College throughout the year.

The Town and Gown Society is opening the membership to include men and women from the wider non-denominational community so the entire multicultural body that is Renison can be represented.

They may not be red shoes clicking their way back home, but our Renison hoodies have found their way into a “Renison” family via the internet. Imagine our surprise when we received an email with the following message:

“I write to you today from Kansas City. My maiden name is ‘Renison’ and I am very interested in the purchase of a hoodie I saw advertised on your University’s homepage. My son uses my surname of Renison and he would be thrilled. I would wear mine proudly.” - Kathi

We contacted Kathi right away and arranged to send her the two hoodies as she requested. Kathi wrote the following message when they arrived:

“Hello all! The hoodies have arrived and we love them! My son, Nich, was thrilled and blown away when I told him about our new friends from ‘Renison.’ He can’t believe he’s wearing a hoodie with our name on it! :-) They are really beautiful and so worth the wait. I can't thank you all enough for your kindness & generosity. You all gave pieces of yourselves with my request. We are so touched and thankful! I promise we will take a picture of us with our very cool new hoodies and send you copies.”

We are thrilled to have this connection with a Renison family in another country. Thank you Kathi and Nich! The hoodies look great!!
The Japanese Doll Festival (also known as the Hina Festival or Girls’ Day) was celebrated on Saturday, March 3, 2012, at the Sakura Japanese Language School at Renison University College. This is a day that celebrates girls’ healthy growth and happiness throughout the year.

One Festival custom is to display ornamental dolls that represent various members of the court such as the Emperor, Empress, attendants, and musicians dressed in traditional Japanese clothing. This custom began over a thousand years ago. At the time, people believed the dolls possessed the power to contain bad spirits, so they would send the dolls out to sea, taking the spirits away with them.

Today families generally start to display the dolls in February and take them down immediately following the festival on March 3. Superstition says that leaving the dolls past March 4 will result in a late marriage for a daughter.

Boys have their day to shine as well, although in recent years it has been adopted as “Children’s Day” instead of just a day for sons. This festivity takes place on May 5 and is celebrated in Japan, China, Hong Kong, and Macau. The contemporary holiday is said to celebrate the happiness of all children and to express gratitude to mothers. Sakura Japanese Language School celebrated in May by making and decorating their own large, origami carp-shaped streamers outdoors, and by singing traditional songs.

2012 marks the Diamond Jubilee, the 60th anniversary, of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II’s accession to the Canadian throne. This is only the second Diamond Jubilee in the Crown’s history, the first being that of Queen Victoria in 1897.

To mark this special occasion in Canada’s history, Renison University College held a special ‘Diamond Jubilee’ themed College Dinner on Tuesday, March 20, 2012.

Bradley Barbour, Chairman of the Waterloo-Wellington Branch of the Monarchist League of Canada, gave the traditional College Dinner toast to the Queen. Other events to mark this year of celebration are being planned.

Recognizing the Crown’s place in Canada—in our culture and our constitution—and the Queen’s dedication to service of Canada and the Commonwealth, Renison University College is proud to join the rest of Canada in congratulating Her Majesty on the occasion of her Diamond Jubilee.

Renison’s Head Chef, Craig David, did an incredible job in recreating the Diamond Jubilee emblem on a cake, which was enjoyed at the dinner.
November 1 - December 15, Ron Champion travelled to Asia (Hong Kong, China, Japan) on behalf of Renison’s English Language Institute and the recently established Renison International Office. “People always ask me if I had fun. ‘Fun’ doesn’t quite describe my travels,” says Ron. “Interesting, productive, gratifying, at times exhausting, but not fun.” Here’s a statistical summary of his time in and around the Middle Kingdom.

For four of the six weeks, Ron travelled to partner universities across China to test the English-language proficiency of students who want to come to Waterloo for “2+2” programs in the Faculties of Science, Arts, and Environment. 2+2 students complete half their undergraduate degrees in China, half at Waterloo, and graduate with degrees from both universities. Renison’s English Language Institute has provided testing and consulting services for 2+2 initiatives since 2004. 2+2 programs continue to expand: applications are expected to increase by almost 40% this year, and new programs have been established for Economics at Waterloo and Social Work at Renison.

Ron also visited universities in Hong Kong and Japan to explore opportunities for the English Language Institute (ELI) and Renison as a whole, including academic exchange opportunities for students.

Ron is Manager of Special Projects for ELI and Manager of Renison International. You can reach him at ron.champion@uwaterloo.ca

### By the numbers...

| Distance travelled (km) by air, rail, and bus—almost 85% of the circumference of Earth at the equator. | 33,778 |
| Number of universities visited | 20 |
| Number of cities visited | 14 |
| Number of students tested for 2+2 programs at uWaterloo | 162 |
| Per cent increase of students tested, 2011 vs 2010 | 37 |
| Number of visits to Starbucks | 2 |
| Number of times he bumped into Principal Glenn Cartwright in Beijing | 1 |

By the numbers...
The National Japanese Speech Contest took place on Saturday, March 31, 2012 at the University of British Columbia. Two Renison students competed, and with both taking home awards. This is the third year in a row that Renison has taken home a gold medal.

Sonia Liu was awarded first place in the ‘Open’ category, and Manisha Tharoor won second place in the ‘Beginners’ category.

Renison had a very strong showing at the provincial level as well. At the 30th Ontario Japanese Speech Contest (OJSC) that took place on Saturday, March 10th, 2012 at the University of Toronto, four out of seven competing students took home awards.

Professor Akiko Maruko, founding co-ordinator of Japanese Language Courses at Renison, was recognized for her 30-year contribution to the OJSC.

RENISON BRINGS HOME A GOLD MEDAL!
Mexico-Canada Experience

The Mexico-Canada Learning Experience helps participants (both students taking the course for credit and community members engaged in not-for-credit learning) gain new information and insights both about the issues facing citizens of Mexico and Canada and about our interconnectedness. We are also privileged to learn about some of the creative and courageous responses of rural, urban, and indigenous communities in both countries.

Participants do “figure out what course of action to take,” and members of the Renison community are making a difference.

Fundraiser for Caminando Unidos, an alternative school in Cuernavaca, Mexico, that supports and empowers poor children and youth. Watch for details of this fall 2012 fundraiser organized by participants in the 2012 Mexico-Canada Learning experience.

Here are examples of the impact this trip had, as described by some of this year’s participants:

I see the world differently . . . I learned much about myself and Mexico while I was there. Thank you so much for such an influential and insightful experience . . . I felt this was a life changing experience that has heightened my awareness. Now to figure out what course of action to take . . .

Corporate Responsibility by Canadian Mining Companies.

Four members of the 2010 group, co-facilitators Linda Snyder and Marilyn Malton, and BSW alumnae, Karene Martin and Melissa Riewald, continue to press the federal government to require Canadian mining companies to respect environmental standards and human rights in host countries. For more information on this issue see www.miningwatch.ca

The next Mexico-Canada Learning Experience is planned for 2014. Think about joining us!
Steve Prentice

A resident at Renison University College from 2006-2009, Steve Prentice has long been a dedicated member of the Renison community. He was named Animal floor member of the year and Resident of the Year in 2006 and subsequently served as the Don of both Moose Crossing and Down Under. Steve graduated from the University of Waterloo in 2009 with a joint honours Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology and Religious Studies.

In 2011, Steve was hired by Renison University College to fill the newly created position of Student Life Coordinator. In this short time, Steve has created strong, creative, and fun programming to improve both the academic and resident student experience at the College. Renison University College is very pleased to have such an involved and active alumnus on staff to continue our long tradition of engaging student life activities.

Brendon Bedford

Brendon Bedford joined the Renison University College community in 2004. Brendon was active in residence life during his time on Animal and Loft from 2004 to 2008 and was awarded Renison’s Contribution Award in 2005. In fall 2008, Brendon returned to Animal as a Don. He graduated from Renison University College in 2009 with an honours Bachelor of Arts Co-op degree in Political Science with a minor in Music. Brendon stayed connected with Renison over the course of his Master of Arts degree in Political Science at the University of Waterloo between 2009 and 2010. He is still an active member of the St. Bede’s Chapel community at Renison.

In March of 2012, Brendon returned to Renison University College to take on the position of Special Events and Alumni Affairs Coordinator. Brendon has always been and remains a champion of Renison traditions. He proudly represents the College through his passion, dedication and enthusiasm for all things Renison.

IN MEMORIAM

Michele Stranz passed away with family at her bedside, on Sunday, December 11, 2011, of cancer. She fought her brief battle with strength and courage. Michele graduated with a BA ('01), BSW ('02), and MSW and worked as a Social Worker for Family and Children Services in Guelph. Michele is survived by her three loving children, Nichole (husband James), Christian, and Jay Jay.

On April 29, 2012, Jonathan Gouthro, BA ('95), was struck by a vehicle while crossing an intersection in Ft. Lauderdale Beach, Florida. The driver of the car did not stop. Jonathan was taken in critical condition to Broward General Hospital, where he remained in a coma until he died on the evening of May 8, 2012. Two memorial services were held: one in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida and one in Freeport, Grand Bahama.
1969
BRUCE SINGLETON, BMath

I noticed the first Grapevine entry was from Brodie Hart in [the previous] issue. I knew Brodie and his sister although I was a couple of years ahead of both. How goes it Brodie?

Here are some memories I will leave with you. Please feel free to publish them in whatever manner.

I was initially an engineering student but graduated B. Math in 1969 living each term at Renison - some of the fondest memories of my life. My first work terms were in the INCO mines in Thompson, Manitoba. When we first resided at Renison the women’s residence was only half of the building that housed the cafeteria - the one closest to campus. First year females had a curfew! I think it was 11:00 and all men had to be out of the building. The original Bullwinkle was alive and well but was stolen by residents of the new Co-op. He was eventually found on top of their TV tower.

We won visiting privileges in rooms - members of the opposite sex. The college Principal was Professor Rees; the Office was run by Mrs. Kauk; Louis was head cook; and the caretakers were Bill Payne (who spotted Bullwinkle on his way to work) and Wolfgang (deceased). The Chaplain was initially Reverend Finlay followed by Father Bill (?) who was subsequently married in the chapel. Our year book was called “What a Treat” thanks to one L. Rutherford! Where are you Lloy?

After we were allowed to have room visitors of the opposite sex, Saint Jerome students fought for the same thing. They were granted it but get this - whenever there was such a visitor in someone’s room, the mattresses had to be placed in the hall!

The pranks in that timeframe were too many to list but here are some highlights:

1. One day under the guise of a Psych experiment some guys got live turkeys from a local farm and set them free in the women’s residence at night. It was literally, a SCREAM. Sarah - mentioned in Brodie’s article - was one of the girls brave enough to carry out a turkey. I believe she then fainted!

2. One night at dinner all the seniors got their meal - spaghetti - first by plan, and then while the frosh were in line we started literally throwing it at them while they were unarmored! Louis the cook was in on it. Within minutes the entire cafeteria was covered in noodles and sauce. It took all night to clean up.

3. Another evening our floor had a “planning session” with another floor (we always played tricks on each other) to decide what we could do to yet a third floor in the building. Once all the visitors were in the designated room one of our guys came to the door and opened up on them with a fire hose!

I think a lot of us were repressed in high school and did our catching up once we were on our own. That was clearly the case for me. I drank my first 2 beers (“stubbies”) one night (hated the taste) and, trying to look cool in our room with the guys, proceeded to drop not just the first but the second onto the floor. I intended to set them onto the dresser but missed both times. They smashed. I was cut off!

I would love to hear from any of the gang from ’65 through ’69. I am still friends with one colleague - Ian Simpson.

Where is that red reset button of life?
singeast@sympatico.ca

1977
ELIZABETH (LIZ) GARDNER, BA (SDS)
Special Education Teacher/Special Education Coordinator at Prairie River Junior High School in High Prairie, Alberta.

I have been at the school for 32 years. I plan on retirement in two more years. Yippee!! I work for High Prairie School Division #48. My husband and I live on a farm 25 km. southwest of the town of High Prairie. We have two cats, three dogs, three horses, and five miniature donkeys. Moose, deer, coyotes, wolves, and a few other assorted creatures inhabit our land. We see them on a regular basis. My favourite memory of Renison is the classes I had with Monna Zentner. She was an amazing prof. The things I learned in her classes have served me well in the classroom.

1982
EIICHI FUKUDA, Ph.D. (Chem Eng)

I moved into Renison College residence on the very first day I arrived in Canada from Japan (August 1976), and stayed there until April 1977, so Renison is a memorable place for me. After leaving Waterloo, I roamed around Edmonton, Sault St. Marie, and London. I have two daughters. My wife, Barbara Fukuda, also a graduate from the University of Waterloo, passed away in March this year.

One thing I would like to note, considering Renison as specializing in linguistics in addition to social studies, is that, by sheer coincidence, I have become a self-
taught linguist of English-Japanese linguistic relativity over the past 30 years. My brother and I even published a book on the theme in Japan in 1990. With such close ties to my personal history, I cannot help feeling a strong connection with Renison.

1990
CHERYL UPFOLD, BA
As a mature student it was very difficult to start on the academic achievement of a university degree. Dale Payne travelled to Walkerton, Ontario one night a week for an off-campus course and he got the ball rolling for a group of us! He made it all seem possible - and it was! Thanks Dale.

1995
SUE RUTLEDGE, BA (SDS), BSW 2000
I graduated from the SDS program in 1995. During, and following the SDS program, I worked for the House of Friendship's Kiwanis Youth Residence for about 4 years as a youth counsellor. When the BSW program came to U of W in 1999, I returned to Renison and completed the 10-month program. My placement during the program was at FCS of the Waterloo Region, where I began as an intake worker. Upon graduation from the BSW in June 2000, I was hired full time and, proudly, have been there ever since. In 2005, I completed my MSW at Laurier. My placement during my MSW was at Family Services of Cambridge and North Dumfries, where I did some individual, marital, family and group counselling. I continued my employment with FCS upon graduation. Currently, I am an After Hours emergency response Social Worker with the agency. I have the exciting task of responding to emergency child protection cases at all hours of the nights and weekends. I work very closely with many community agencies, specifically Waterloo Regional Police and our area hospitals and shelters. I continue to enjoy my work with FCS and look forward to many more years with them (yes, I’ve managed not to burn out there lol).

1996
STEPHANIE BROMLEY, BA (Hist)
Jevon William Nevil Bromley was born on August 28, 2011. Mom and Dad, Stephanie and Nevil Bromley, are both Waterloo graduates.

2007
CHRIS O’NEIL, BA (Hist)
I graduated from the University of Waterloo in June, 2007 with an honours Bachelor of Arts Degree in History with a minor in Religious Studies.

2008
RYAN ALBER, BA (Hist)
Currently, I am living in North Carolina, USA, with my wife, Julia, as she finishes her Master’s degree at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG). We will both be moving to Gainesville, Florida in May 2012 for her 3-4 year PhD program at the University of Florida. Having completed my law degree, I will be sitting for the Florida bar exam in July 2012. Being the Canadian that I am, I have just started playing ice hockey in a league for the first time since I was a kid. I am looking for a league to join after we complete the move to Florida.
Since leaving Renison, I completed my education by attending Lakehead University to get my Bachelor of Education. Immediately after graduation, I hopped a plane to England and haven’t looked back. I’m loving working at one of the top academies in the country and working with extremely underprivileged children to help them achieve dreams and ambitions. In my spare time I’ve been busy exploring Europe - from enjoying wine at a Tuscan vineyard, skiing in the Swiss Alps for Christmas, enjoying Paris, kissing the Blarney Stone, to even going on an expedition to find the Loch Ness Monster! Perhaps the best part of all these adventures is that I have enjoyed them with my Renison roommate and closest friend, Jessica Bowen. I’ve also been fortunate enough to host many other Renison alumni as they travel through Europe, for example Leandro Barry, Heather Kendall and Kate Baker. However, I’m lucky to remain in touch with all of the friends from Renison and make sure to spend as much time with them as I can when I return to Canada.

2009
AMANDA AXMAN, BA (Eng. Lit.)

DAVID SEVIGNY, BA (SDS)

David was known on Renison campus for being one of the very few men in the Social Development Studies program. Elisa was taking her first on-campus course after having completed all of her classes through distance-ed to that point. As it turned out both these students enrolled in the Palliative Care course being offered. Naturally David was running late for the first day of class on that January 6th evening and upon arriving to the back door, realized it was locked. As he attempted to turn the handle a young woman sitting in the middle of the class looked back at him and smiled as she motioned that the adjacent door was unlocked. Having never seen this beautiful woman before David made it a point to sit next to her and introduce himself immediately. In a course where discussions focused on death and dying, something truly beautiful was born that evening.

David and Elisa are set to be married on July 7, 2012 at the Elmhurst Inn in Ingersoll. They decided to have their engagement pictures taken at Renison this past fall and recreate that special moment when they first met.

2010

G R A P E V I N E

UPCOMING EVENTS

EAST ASIAN FESTIVAL
Saturday, Sept. 29, 2012
11 -2pm
Renison University College Great Hall

3rd Annual Across-the-Creek Event
The Matchmaker
Festival Theatre, Stratford
Saturday, October 27, 2012

Join alumni from the other university colleges ‘across-the-creek’ for an evening of fun, including a pre-curtain reception at 7:00 pm with Prof. Ted McGee of St. Jerome’s University, who will share some background of this classic comedy.

Tickets: $75

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact: Brendon Bedford 519.884.4404 ext. 28657 brendon.bedford@uwaterloo.ca
YOUR DONATIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

SHADYA MARSHAD
2011/12 Li Tim-Oi Scholar

I am honoured to have been chosen the Florence Li Tim-Oi scholar for 2011/2012. Going back to school after 22 years was one of the biggest transitions of my life. As a mature student and a mother of three, I have had to sacrifice a great deal to get to where I am, and it is consistency and hard work that have got me here. I must say this award could not have come at a better time, and it helped alleviate some of the financial burden that my family was going through because of my return to school.

Family and community have always been an integral part of my life. Volunteering and helping are second nature to me, whether it is helping a neighbour with babysitting, tutoring younger children with their homework, or cooking at a community gathering. The mutual aid that exists between everyone in my community, where everyone depends on each other and looks out for each other, has made me who I am today. I needed to learn the appropriate methods and gain the tools to do the things that I have always been doing in a more structured and organized way. As such, I decided to go back to school.

My commitment to social justice and looking at life from an anti-oppressive paradigm are some of the motivations that have drawn me to social work. My future goals as a social worker are to utilize my knowledge to help ensure that policy and practice are linked to service.

And, I have found volunteering to bring feelings of self-fulfillment and the knowledge that you have made a difference in someone else’s life.

Thanks to the generosity of the donors who created the Florence Li Tim-Oi Award and all those who have contributed to it since it was created, I have been able to receive the education that will help me meet my goals. Thank you as well to Renison University College for acknowledging my potential and giving me this award. I would also like to acknowledge my family for being there and supporting me every step of the way; I could not have done it without you. Thank you.