



*With the University of
Waterloo commemorating its
50 year Anniversary in 2007,*

the Faculty of Science seized the *'spirit of why not'* by acknowledging the remarkable achievements of its own alumni. Thus today we launch the inaugural Distinguished Alumni Award, an annual honour bestowed upon a science alumnus who has made significant career contributions to his/her field. We have also chosen to honour 50 outstanding alumni who have themselves proven their merit to their peers and community.

The diverse group of individuals we celebrate today symbolize the sheer excellence and incredible drive of our graduates, proving that a science degree from UW can lead to great accomplishments. Our alumni evoke a special pride from this institution as the relationships they have forged with faculty, staff and one another have cemented their names and memories within these walls forevermore.




Stephen W. Scherer,
PhD, FRSC

BSc Biology '87
Toronto, Ontario

Distinguished Alumni

Stephen Scherer is arguably one of Canada's most acclaimed scientists, making significant contributions toward understanding the composition of the human genome for studies of genetic diseases. Through collaborative research with 90 scientists from 10 countries worldwide, his phenomenal data has contributed to the decoding of the DNA sequence of human chromosome 7, including the identification of 20 disease-causing genes such as those for holoprosencephaly, renal carcinoma, and Williams Syndrome, to name a few. His recent work characterizes structural variation in the human genome, and examines the role genetics has in autism. Dr Scherer has co-discovered the phenomena of global copy number alternations of DNA and genes as the most common type of genetic variation in the human genome.

Dr Scherer currently works as a Senior Scientist at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Ontario. He also is a professor at the University of Toronto, where he received his PhD in Genetics, in the Department of Molecular and Medical Genetics. In addition to these career commitments, he is also the Associate Chief of the Research Institute as well as Director of the Centre for Applied Genomics. The centre supports over 500 scientists per year, and, with Dr Scherer's assistance, has made numerous discoveries in genetics in Canada over the past decade. He is also the Group Leader of Computational Genomics at the Toronto McLaughlin Centre for Molecular Medicine; Council member of the Human Genome Organization Council and Chair of the Science and Industry Advisory Board of Genome Canada.



Although he leads an extremely busy working life, Dr Scherer carries his expertise into the community where he is very active in public outreach and education programs. He has delivered over 300 scientific seminars in over 40 countries since 1997 and regularly lectures to science teachers, lay people and business and political leaders. He has also put his hand into the film industry, acting as the scientific consultant for two documentaries including the MediCinema Film creation "*Cracking the Code, the continuing saga of genetics,*" and the Gemini Award-winning documentary, "*After Darwin*" by GalaFilms-Telefilm Canada.

Throughout his career, Dr Scherer has been celebrated by his peers and awarded for his efforts. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, holds the GlaxoSmithKline Endowed Chair in Human Genetics and Genomics and Canadian Institute of Health Research Investigator Award. He is also a past recipient of the Steacie Prize in the Natural Sciences; the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research Explorer's Award. the Genetics Society of Canada Annual Gold Medal Award; Canada's Top 40 Under 40 Award; the Premier's Research Excellence Award and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute International Scholarship Award.

Above all else, Stephen Scherer is a devoted husband to fellow biology UW alumna Jo-Anne Herbrick, and happy father to two active and budding scholars, three and a half year old Josef and one and a half year old Julianna.

Ella M. (Yeti) Agnew, JD



BSc Chemistry '75
Toronto, Ontario

Ms Agnew is a lawyer who has blended together an eclectic mix of interests in her life which include science, law and a love of the arts. She has been an active participant at the University of Waterloo sitting on the UW Board of Governors, the National Alumni Communications Committee and the Alumni Development Council. University of Waterloo is proud of the *Yeti Agnew Award* in the Faculty of Science which has enhanced the lives and learning opportunities of many Science students. Ms Agnew has been the Director of both the Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery in Waterloo and the Ontario Association of Art Galleries and is currently a Founding Director of the Musagetes Foundation in support of the Arts. She served as Trustee for the Royal Ontario Museum for many years. Ms Agnew has also written several articles on intellectual property, cultural property, not-for-profit and governance issues and has had two legal books published.



J. Nigel M. Bell, PhD

MSc Biology '65
Reading, Berkshire, UK

Dr Bell, Professor of Environmental Pollution and Director of Masters in Environmental Technology at Imperial College in London, England, has carried out research for over 35 years on the effects of air pollution on crops, trees, native vegetation, mosses, lichens, herbivorous insect pests and plant fungal and viral pathogens in the UK and a number of developing countries. He is active in researching contaminant pathways in the environment, particularly radionuclides, predicting dose to humans via air-soil-plant pathways. He has interests in other environmental management issues, including life cycle assessment and environmental auditing. He has been special adviser seven times to inquiries of House of Commons and House of Lords Select Committees and was appointed UK's representative for the Chernobyl International Radioecology Centre in Ukraine. Currently he is a commissioner on the Greater London Authority's Sustainable Development Commission and a member of an international panel establishing an environmental science department at a new technical university in Cyprus. In recognition of his life successes and dedication to environmental causes, Dr Bell was elected Fellow of the Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management in 2003. He was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Environmental Studies by University of Waterloo in 1998.

John Bender, ND

Biology '72

Waterloo, Ontario



While working in a local hospital, Dr Bender decided to venture outside of conventional medicine despite the lack of popularity of naturopathic practices at the time. He is widely known as one of the first local homeopathic doctors and after 27 years, among the most experienced in his profession. He has treated over 10,000 patients, many of whom could not find wellness through other forms of medical treatment. His commitment to the profession of naturopathic medicine is reflected not only in the high-quality care he gives his patients, but also through mentoring the next generation of healthcare workers by providing them with meaningful educational and practical experiences. For 10 years he served on the Ontario Naturopathic Regulatory Board under the Ministry of Health, serving four years as Chair. He has taught at the Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine and served on the professional association in various capacities. In 2003, he was chosen Naturopath of the Year. In the community Dr Bender volunteers his time and participates in organizations such as the Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support, Out of the Cold, Mennonite Central Committee, and serves on various church boards. He is married to UW alumna Joanne Bender, nee Elligsen, who earned her BSc in Biology and Chemistry in 1972 and MSc in Biology in 1974.

Alex T. Bielak

PhD Biology '84

Waterdown, Ontario



Dedicated to science communications and protecting the environment, Dr Bielak has shared his breadth of knowledge in many professional and volunteer settings. A variety of career moves, including Research Manager - Ecosystem Science, Director of Fisheries Management for New Brunswick, Atlantic Salmon Federation Executive Director, and employment with the National Water Research Institute, prepared him for his current role as Environment Canada's first-ever Director, Science & Technology Liaison. He has given freely of his time to organizations such as the Quebec Labrador Foundation, Canadian Water Network, Canadian Rivers Institute, International Joint Commission's Council of Great Lakes Research Managers, Canadian Science Writers' Association, Trout Unlimited's National Resource Board, and as a national judge for the Toyota Earth Day Scholarships. A dynamic and widely-published speaker, and alumnus of the Banff Centre's inaugural Science Communications Residency, his expertise is sought in Canada and internationally as a premier science communications authority. He has been further recognized by non-government organizations, government, public and local interest groups. Volunteer commitments include President of the Flamborough Rotary Club, Vice President of the Cloverleaf Foundation, membership in local Mayoral and MPP Advisory Councils and the Hamilton Spectator's Editorial Board. Alex and his wife, UW alumna Roberta, Earth Sciences '84, reside in Waterdown, Ontario with their two daughters.

Thomas G. Boivin

MSc Biology '87

West Vancouver, British Columbia



Prior to joining Hatfield Consultants in 1992, where Mr Boivin currently serves as President, five years were spent working with the Inuit of Northern Quebec assisting in fisheries development programs and assessing chemical contamination in Arctic food items. Since 1994, he has acted as senior environmental specialist for an assessment of long-term impacts of Agent Orange on the environment and the human population of Viet Nam. Other recent projects include assessments of tropical biodiversity in Indonesia and Viet Nam, development of earth observation applications, environmental awareness programs in the Greater Mekong Subregion, and environmental/social impact assessments for proposed industrial developments in several regions of Asia and Canada. Mr Boivin has over 20 years of experience in the environmental sector, including work in tropical, temperate and arctic environments. Mr Boivin has also acted as Project Manager for dioxin and furan trend monitoring programs and environmental effects monitoring programs for several British Columbia pulp and paper mills. He has served as Secretariat to the Regional Aquatics Monitoring Program for oilsands developments. His areas of specialization include project management, environmental impact assessments, fisheries management, contamination monitoring, capacity building and training and institutional strengthening. The scope of his experience includes working with private industry, national and local governments, and non-government organizations towards sustainable development and management of natural resources.

Howard Burton

PhD Physics '99

Waterloo, Ontario



From 1999 to 2007, Howard Burton led the development of Perimeter Institute, one of the most highly visible additions to the Waterloo area in recent years. The Institute focuses on bringing together top international researchers in the areas of quantum information theory, quantum gravity, quantum foundations, superstring theory, cosmology and particle physics. To ensure the community had an opportunity to become actively involved in the science and discovery of the institute, Dr Burton initiated several educational outreach programs. He hosted a popular monthly public lecture series, an International Summer School, the annual Einstein Plus Teachers' Workshop and numerous student and teacher seminars. Dr Burton interacted extensively with organizations and government bodies at local, regional, provincial, national and international levels. Additionally, he promoted science and education through the media – participating with CBC Radio and Television, CTV News, TVOntario, CNN International, MSNBC and other international broadcasters. He also contributed a regular column to *The Kitchener-Waterloo Record* for many years and has been published in various other media, including *Canadian Architect* and *The Times of India*. Dr Burton is a former board member of the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony and has been involved in a host of other community initiatives.

David Cale

BSc Physics '71
Brampton, Ontario

To Mr Cale, teaching physics was a window through which one could glimpse at the great mystery of all that is. He invited students to see how a science education could give them a view to the wonder of the universe. Beyond the physics content, he contributed to the social and educational development of his students; he helped engender a fascination and an informed confident curiosity. One of his students noted, "Some individuals may have great business successes or solved political and social issues; some may even have patented inventions or built the space station. Mr Cale has not done this, but he has inspired people to do all these things...That is the great gift teachers like David Cale give us all." While some acquiesce, letting the assurances of society's authorities go unquestioned, Mr Cale has pushed deeper in his exploration of human nature and political influence. Travelling the world, he has combined the camera lens with another of his deep passions: a profound desire to show how human conflict is the ultimate failure of imagination. In his vivid photography and compelling writing he furthers the themes he aspired to share with his students. His work acts as an invitation to stand in awe at the wonder of it all.



Andrew Cherkas

BSc '72 Chemistry, PhD '89 Chemistry
Stouffville, Ontario

If one measures dedication and success by consistency, longevity and passion, Dr Cherkas has proven to be the standard for those qualities. Not only is Dr Cherkas devoted to his chosen vocation of chemical education, he has volunteered immeasurable time and expertise to this area. UW's *Chem13 News* has been published for over 25 years to a national and international readership of over 26,000 high school chemistry teachers. Since its inception, Dr Cherkas has been an invaluable contributor of innovative and creative chemistry articles to the magazine. He has presented at over 100 sessions of local and international conferences such as CHEM ED, Biennial Conference on Chemistry Education, and Science Teachers' Association of Ontario. The scope and creativity of his presentations are exemplified by session titles such as *Marshmallow Chronicles* and *Bubbleology*. He inspires high school chemistry teachers who return to their classrooms with fresh ideas and innovative teaching techniques. In addition to being recognized as a highly acclaimed chemistry teacher and Science Head, he has written and co-authored several textbooks and a "survival kit" for chemistry teachers as well as published supplemental chemistry resources to aid students in their understanding and relevance of the subject.





Dr Ray E. Clement

BSc Chemistry '74, MSc Chemistry '76, PhD Chemistry '81
Etobicoke, Ontario

As a student, Village Don, grad student representative, adjunct professor, researcher, student athletics and recreation champion and employer who has hired over 200 UW students, Dr Clement is approaching a 40-year relationship with UW. He has received awards from the Canadian Society for Chemistry, Ontario Society for Environmental Education, Government of Ontario, and the American Chemical Society based on his 160 scientific publications and reports, 170 conference presentations, and six published books. Dr Clement continues to show commitment to his profession by volunteering. *The Crucible*, a journal for science teachers, has benefited from his expertise for over 10 years as have the Royal Canadian Institute for the Advancement of Science, the York Region Sci-Tech Fair, the Environmental Careers Organization of Canada, and other non-profit associations. Other professional activities include service on editorial boards and the review of hundreds of journal articles and grant proposals. Dr Clement founded the International EnviroAnalysis Conference. He frequently lectures to young professionals on job searching skills; his advice can be seen as part of UW's on-line career development manual. In his spare time Dr Clement managed to become a Certified Tennis Teaching Professional helping and encouraging beginners of all ages.



John A. Coburn

BSc Chemistry '72
Guelph, Ontario

After ten years of working with Environment Canada where he was awarded the Government of Canada Merit Award for dedication, devotion and excellence in work, Mr Coburn decided to use his skills moving into a leadership role where he developed a small company, Zenon. Very quickly this company grew to become a world leader in design and supply of water and wastewater treatment systems. Mr Coburn invested in early-stage companies with proprietary products and international market scope. He provided strategic, financial, and operational expertise to company management. His current position as Managing Director of XPV Capital Corporation utilizes his scientific, business and financial experience. As a result he has repeatedly been recognized as a leader in his field. Donating freely of his time and talents, he gives many hours in leadership roles as a director or a committee member to various businesses, environmental associations and boards. Mr Coburn enjoys salmon fishing and looks forward to an annual trip to the Queen Charlotte Islands.

Bernadette Hughes Conant

BSc Earth Sciences '86, MSc Earth Sciences '91
Waterloo, Ontario

As Executive Director of the Canadian Water Network (CWN), Ms Conant has influenced the direction and mission of this Centre of Excellence. She has played a key role in bringing together over 200 researchers from 37 academic institutions to identify and address critical issues in the provision and protection of safe, clean water. Prior to joining the CWN, Ms Conant was involved in groundwater issues in both Canada and the USA for 17 years. Outside of her professional life, she has taken time to lead and organize a group of fellow Earth Sciences alumni to donate their time cooking and serving dinner to disadvantaged and/or homeless individuals who face daily challenges of poverty and substance abuse. Through her organization and perseverance this group has served the community monthly since 2000, regularly feeding over 100 grateful individuals. Other volunteer hours are given to school council, a children's reading program, Groundwater Day at primary schools, and various activities at her parish. In her personal and professional life, Ms Conant's talent for inspiring people to work together and seizing opportunities has clearly contributed to her many successes.



Paul D. Copeland

BSc Physics '62
Toronto, Ontario

Paul Copeland, a lawyer with the Toronto firm Copeland, Duncan, has a 40-year career in criminal and immigration law including national security cases and civil litigation. Considered by his peers to be a champion of the wrongfully convicted and left-wing causes, Mr Copeland has dedicated much of his time and talent questioning Canada's security services. His commitment to his profession seems endless. He helped found the Law Union of Ontario in 1974 and has been Bencher (elected director) of the Law Society of Upper Canada for a remarkable 16 years. At the Law Society he has held committee Chairs on Clinic Funding, Women in the Legal Profession, and Equity and Aboriginal Issues. He is also the Chair of the Human Rights Monitoring Group at the law society, a group focused on alleviating repression of lawyers and judges, and is co-president of the Association in Defense of the Wrongly Convicted. Since 1979, Mr Copeland has also been a regular columnist for the Criminal Lawyers' Association newsletter and was recently awarded the Sidney B. Linden Award from Legal Aid Ontario. He will be receiving the G. Arthur Martin Medal from the Criminal Lawyers' Association in October of this year. Outside of work, Mr Copeland is an avid motorcycle enthusiast and serves as Ridemaster of the Illegals Motorcycle Club.



Marcel R. Coutu

BSc Earth Sciences '76
Calgary, Alberta



Mr Coutu has more than 25 years of experience in the resource and energy sector with a primary focus in corporate finance. Prior to joining Canadian Oil Sands Limited in 2001 as President and CEO, he was Chief Financial Officer of Gulf Canada until its sale to Conoco. Preceding that position, he was Senior Vice President International and Vice President Finance at TransCanada Pipelines where he helped finance its mainline expansion and international projects. Mr Coutu worked many years in the upstream sector for companies that include Hudson's Bay Oil & Gas and Dome Petroleum, and has five years of experience in the investment banking business. He has completed the Institute of Corporate Directors Corporate Governance program and is accredited as a certified director under that program. Mr Coutu serves on the Board of Directors of Brookfield Asset Management, Great-West Lifeco., United Way of Calgary, and the Pension and Compensation Committee of the Calgary Stampede Board. He is Chairman of the Board of Syncrude and chairs the Syncrude Joint Venture CEO and Management Committees. He is also Governor of the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers and a member of the Canadian Council of Chief Executives.

Carol Cressman Foster

OD '79
Waterloo, Ontario



As well as operating an Optometric clinic, Dr Cressman is highly involved in activities in her community. She is the owner and facilitator of an 1860's renovated barn used for social and educational events by groups such as Hospice, Mennonite Economic Development Association, International Teams, and various local high school and university clubs. Following the death of her husband and business partner in 2001, Dr Cressman helped found several grief support groups: Living Intentionally and Fully with Energy (LIFE) and Parenting Through Grief. Both provide individuals affected by loss with opportunities to learn and establish community. Dr Cressman is a member of the Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) eye care team, the Ontario Association of Optometrists Healthcare Stakeholders Task Force, as well as being involved with the School of Optometry's Outreach Working Group and fundraising for the School of Optometry's expansion. She is active in her local church and frequently speaks to service clubs, church groups and schools on topics such as eye care, fostering inter-professional healthcare relationships and challenges associated with loss. Spare time is spent reading, baking, gardening, and running - both with, and after, her three active teens.

Richard A. Cunjak

PhD Biology '86
Fredericton, New Brunswick

Dr Richard A. Cunjak is a full professor at the University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, where he holds joint appointments in the Department of Biology and the Faculty of Forestry and Environmental Management. He holds a Tier I Canada Research Chair in River Ecosystem Science. After 25 years of research, Dr Cunjak's specialization involves the study of river ecosystem process and function, specifically within the ecology and conservation of diadromous fish such as Atlantic salmon. In 2000, he was instrumental in establishing the Canadian Rivers Institute which provides a focal theme for researchers working in Canadian river ecosystems. Between 2000 and 2004 he was the Director of the Canadian Rivers Institute, where he continues to play a leading role. He is the founder and Director of the Stable Isotopes in Nature Laboratory and was the principal investigator of two successful Canada Foundation for Innovation grants. Dr Cunjak is presently working with counterparts in Bosnia and his native Croatia to save and protect the countries' natural resources. Dr Cunjak is married with three children and is an avid fly fisherman.



Julie E. Czerneda

BSc Biology '77
Orillia, Ontario

Ms Czerneda is an award-winning, best-selling science fiction author. Her first novel, *A Thousand Words for Stranger*, was published by DAW Books. After graduation, she studied the evolution of animal behaviour before returning to UW as a technician and Senior Demonstrator in the Biology Department. For the next thirteen years, Ms Czerneda was a science author and editor, contributing to over two hundred student and teacher resources used worldwide. She now writes fiction fulltime. She has written eleven biology-based novels, numerous short stories and anthologies and has won many awards, including three Prix Aurora Awards, Canada's top honour, and the Golden Duck Award of Excellence for Science and Technology Education. She was a finalist for the Philip K. Dick Award for Distinguished Science Fiction and the John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer. Active in the community, Ms Czerneda has judged writing awards, provides professional development for science teachers, consults for *Science News*, and is a sought-after speaker on scientific literacy. She was acknowledged for her achievements in teaching natural history with the Peel Award of Excellence in Education. In 2009, Ms Czerneda will be Guest of Honour at the New Zealand National Convention and Toastmaster for the World Science Fiction Convention in Montreal.





Anthony D. Daus

MSc Earth Sciences '84
Huntington Beach, California

Anthony D. "Tony" Daus, President and Principal Hydrogeologist, Geomatrix is a 25-year environmental industry veteran. His career as a geologist and hydrogeologist includes: managing one of the largest soil and groundwater investigation and remediation projects in Brazil; providing litigation and mediation support on environmental projects involving soil, groundwater and surface water contamination; conducting multi-property industrial and commercial due diligence property assessments; evaluating and remediating fuel hydrocarbon spills and leaks; and managing soil, groundwater, and surface water condition investigations locally and overseas. He has served as a reviewer for several technical journals, including *Ground Water* and *Journal of Environmental Science Health* and is a sought-after presenter in his field. Mr Daus earned a BSc in Geology from the University of Missouri. At the suggestion of one of his undergraduate professors who encouraged him to explore the up-and-coming environmental field in groundwater, he earned an MSc in Hydrogeology. Since 1997 under Mr Daus' guidance as President, Geomatrix has tripled revenues to more than \$90 million while doubling its staff size and office locations. Mr Daus is unique in that he continues to provide consulting services to his key clients while serving as President of the firm. He enjoys spending time with his family, fly fishing, camping, the symphony, and volunteering as a Boy Scout leader.



Frank DiCosmo

BSc Biology '77, PhD Biology '81
Mississauga, Ontario

Dr DiCosmo, President and CEO of Covalon Technologies Ltd., has shown a keen sense of community and heart-felt compassion for helping better the lives of seriously ill patients, especially those afflicted with chronic and non-healing wounds. He founded Covalon to incorporate university and public-based research to create innovative treatments for wound care and infection control. Covalon was recently honoured by the TSX Venture exchange as a "2007 TSX Venture 50" group of young, top-performing, public companies. Dr DiCosmo's expertise is in biochemistry of anticancer drugs of plant origin, liposome delivery of anticancer agents and microbial biofilm development. His research has resulted in novel ways to deter microbial adhesion to indwelling catheters and is innovative in the development of collagen-based wound dressings for chronic wounds. The products are currently used in hospitals in Canada and the US to treat diabetic ulcers, chronic wounds and exit-site infections. Recognized world wide, Dr DiCosmo has been a visiting professor in Japan, China and Portugal and is a sought-after speaker and lecturer. He was granted full professorship in Biology at University of Toronto and presently holds cross appointments at University of Toronto's Institute of Biomedical Engineering and Department of Surgery.

Edward G. Doadt

BSc Chemistry '80, PhD Chemistry '88
Waterloo, Ontario

For almost 30 years Dr Doadt has been involved with UW's *Chem13 News*, starting as a proofreader while a chemistry undergraduate, to his current status as a member of the editorial board. This publication, with readership in 45 countries serving over 2600 high school teachers, offers innovative and inspiring teaching techniques and methodology. In 1995 Dr Doadt became aware of the need for teachers to understand science applications available through the internet, tapping into its classroom potential. This year Dr Doadt will write his hundredth monthly feature column, entitled *Chemistry on the Internet*. It continues to be a vehicle for teachers to share information and connect with current chemical education pedagogy. Outside of the world of chemistry, Dr Doadt has passionately pursued his environmental interests; specifically as Chair of the National Parks Advisory Committee for the Bruce Peninsula National Park and Fathom Five National Marine Park for the past 20 years, and more recently in the development of the management plans for the area. He has been actively involved in the long-term project of attaining a visitors' centre in Tobermory, a multi-million dollar centre that successfully opened in August of 2006. Since 1986, Dr Doadt has worked for the Waterloo Region District School Board, as a teacher, department head, vice-principal and now as principal.



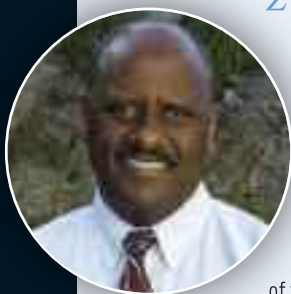
Dan T. Dodge

BSc Physics '77
Ottawa, Ontario

During a co-op work term at Northern Telecom (currently Nortel), Dan Dodge realized the positive impact of technology in everyday life and saw the intricacies and challenges of working in the high-tech world. Together with classmate Gordon Bell, Mr Dodge and Mr Bell graduated from UW and immediately created QNX Software Systems. Known for building the world's most reliable operating system for mission critical applications, QNX has become an integral part of our everyday lives—from powering television broadcast systems to controlling train systems world wide. As the CEO, Mr Dodge has dedicated his life to building this successful business, focusing on developing creative software applications. QNX systems are used in post-secondary institutions to build humanoid robots, map global weather changes, analyze the human genome, and discover new planets. Even the simplicity of eating a chocolate bar is affected: QNX powers the system that monitors and controls the chocolate mixing stage for Cadbury chocolate. Mr Dodge has been featured in *Fortune* magazine as one of the Heroes of Manufacturing and has won numerous innovation and community awards.



Zinabu Gebremariam



PhD Biology '88
Awassa, Ethiopia

After being appointed by the Ethiopian Ministry of Education to coordinate the activities of three colleges that formed Debub University, Dr Gebremariam was appointed President of Debub University, renamed Hawassa University, in 2000. Responsible for preparing the internal organizational structure, policies and internal relations of the administration of the university, as well as presiding over Senate, he is also the Secretary of the University Board. In this role he has led the university to become a larger, more diverse and highly recognized institution. Under his leadership the university has opened nine more faculties, more than twenty-five new departments, a graduate program and a university hospital. Student enrolment has increased twofold since the establishment of the university. Dr Gebremariam is an active researcher, academic and scientist. He is highly sought after by academic institutions worldwide, including those in Norway, Sweden, and several American states. His work has been recognized by the International Foundation for Science (IFS), Sweden. He has received funding from the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia and a Fulbright Professional Development Grant, USA. He was appointed to several commissions including the Ethiopian Agricultural Research Organization and the Biodiversity Conservation and Research Institute by the Prime Minister's Office of Ethiopia.



Lora Gernon

Physics '89
Mississauga, Ontario

Since joining Microsoft in 1992, Ms Gernon has become known as a “builder,” leading various teams through her leadership roles in sales and marketing. As Director of Partner Group, she connects with Microsoft Canada's partner companies to build more information technology solutions within Canada. Ms Gernon's track record during her 18 years of IT experience is nothing short of remarkable. She has consistently overachieved sales quotas and annual goals, has recruited and built high-performing teams, developed the first Customer Lifecycle Management program for Microsoft Canada, launched the Microsoft Partner Program, directed the Broad Reach global advertising campaign and managed corporate public relations and corporate image. She has won several awards for her outstanding professional performance including the Customer and Partner Experience Award for Channel Builder. While managing corporate marketing she re-launched the KidReach Philanthropy program. Ms Gernon has the privilege of leading one of the IT industry's best partner ecosystems in the world. For this she is incredibly proud.

Peter Gray, P Geo., QP (ESA)

BSc Earth Sciences '87

Bright, Ontario

Mr Gray has more than 20 years of hydrogeological and environmental consulting experience with projects ranging from small-scale local environmental assessments to large-scale international assignments. This work includes the recently completed community-based environmental assessments for CIDA and World Vision in the countries of Sri Lanka, Indonesia, India and Thailand following the devastating tsunami in southwest Asia in December 2004. He has contributed greatly to the community over the last 20 years as a champion of groundwater education and protection, including working with the Waterloo Wellington Children's Groundwater Festival as Chair, the Children's Water Education Council as President, the Rotary Club of Kitchener, the University of Waterloo Advisory Council, Faculty of Environmental Studies Dean's Council, the Grand River Conservation Authority Water Forum Organizing Committee, Waterloo Wellington Secondary School Science Fair, Technical Advisor for various University of Waterloo graduate studies projects, Director of the University of Waterloo Museum Board and member of the region's former Groundwater Guardian Affiliate Committee. Mr Gray's project and community service experience is complemented by his corporate and entrepreneurial spirit. He successfully launched two environmental companies, including the successful merger of his 12-year-old company Frontline Environmental Management Inc. with the leading KW-based engineering firm, MTE Consultants, Inc. in April, 2007, where he is the senior hydrologist and holds the position of Vice President.



Rick Green

Science '75

Mississauga, Ontario

After graduating, Rick Green worked as a Demonstrator at the Ontario Science Centre where he developed programs, plays and exhibits that combined information and entertainment. In 1979 he plunged into show biz with *The Frantics*. For eight years this funny foursome created and performed in dozens of live appearances, 150 radio shows, several albums, stage shows, and the groundbreaking TV series *Four On The Floor*. In 2003 *The Frantics* began performing again. In 1989 he became 'Commander Rick', writer and host of TVO's long running science fiction series *Prisoners of Gravity*. At the same time, Mr Green joined Steve Smith to create and write *The Red Green Show*, performing in it as the bumbling outdoorsman Bill. The show spun off books, DVD's, and CD's, becoming Canada's longest-running comedy series. In 1999 he created the critically acclaimed hit *History Bites*. Five seasons plus six one-hour specials later, the show is still going strong. Mr Green's projects have won Gemini Awards, ACTRA Awards, New York Festival Awards, and various educational awards. His material has been performed by legends such as Kim Cattrall, Jim Carrey, Gordon Pinsent, David Steinberg, Graham Chapman, Colin Mochrie, Graham Greene, Eric Stoltz, and Martin Short.





Daniel B. Hardy, PhD

BSc Biology '97
Dallas, Texas

Dr Hardy is a Postdoctoral Fellow in Biochemistry at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, where he studies preterm labour and breast cancer. He currently holds a Susan G. Komen Fellowship in Breast Cancer Research. He has co-authored 15 peer-reviewed papers and a book chapter. He has presented world wide, receiving numerous speaking awards from Wyeth-Ayerst, the Lawson Health Research Institute (LHRI), and the Perinatal Research Society. In the past year, he received an Endocrine Scholar Award from the Endocrine Society along with Sigma Xi Award for his research on breast cancer. This work was highlighted on *Reuter's Health Online*. In addition to research, Dr Hardy represented Canada for two years in the German-Canadian Young Leaders Study Tour. He has organized several charity runs in his community including the Irish Benevolent Society's Paddy's Pace and London's Hospice Half Marathon. In 2002, he was awarded the inaugural Sister Mary Doyle Leadership Award for leadership and volunteering from the LHRI. He actively participates in Canadian running clubs and has lately revitalized his passion for playing hockey. Most recently Dr Hardy was appointed Assistant Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at University of Western Ontario.



Daniel Hayhoe

OD '74
Cambridge, Ontario

As an optometrist, lecturer and teacher, community advocate and international humanitarian, Dr Hayhoe's dedication to Optometry as well as to society is tireless. In addition to private practices in Cambridge and Erin, Ontario, Dr Hayhoe is a clinical instructor at UW. For over 30 years Dr Hayhoe has given of his time and expertise in Ghana and Nigeria. As Director of Clinical Facilities of the School of Optometry at University of Benin, Nigeria, he graduated the first five optometrists in Sub-Saharan Africa. More recently, he founded a rural orphan care and development centre in Malawi which has benefited the Central African community by assisting with AIDS and HIV education and home-based care, clean water and agricultural projects, primary and vocational training schools, daycare and nursery schools, daily community-based care for orphans, as well as nutritional support and disaster relief. Closer to home, Dr Hayhoe and his wife, Chris, founded Popcorn House, a community resource centre in Cambridge which provides a daily breakfast program, a teen activity centre, language and computer training for new Canadians and summer day camps. Dr Hayhoe's tireless work to promote multi-disciplinary approaches to healthcare education was realized with the launching of UW's new School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Campus opening in January 2008.

Dr Mazhar Jalil

PhD Biology '67
Columbus, Ohio

Dr Jalil's professional background as a Microbiologist, Entomologist and Laboratory Scientist encompasses 35 years of diversified health experience with the Ohio Department of Health, particularly in the field of public health and communicable diseases. His numerous and much-cited publications have researched topics such as the effects of cancer chemotherapeutic drugs, vectors of California encephalitis and soil animals. Additionally, he has provided guidance to his city's mayor on matters such as environment, engineering, health, medicine, solid waste management and science education. As a consultant to the United Nations Development Program in Pakistan, Dr Jalil established a nation-wide surveillance program to control arbovirus diseases. His tireless efforts to build bridges of understanding between Christians, Muslims and Jews have spanned three decades. He founded an interfaith association, co-edited a nationally distributed book on interfaith relations, founded Muslim-Jewish and Muslim-Christian task forces and is active on many councils, committees and organizations dedicated to this cause. The State of Ohio Senate and House of Representatives paid tribute to Dr Jalil's many community contributions. His unwavering commitment to humanitarian service also includes work with the Coalition Against Family Violence.



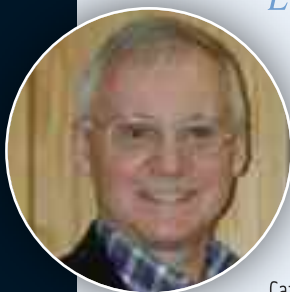
David William Major

BSc Biology '81, MSc Biology '84, PhD Biology '87
Guelph, Ontario

Dr Major is a Principal, Vice President and member of the Board of Directors of Geosyntec Consultants Inc., a firm specializing in earth and environmental sciences, engineering analysis design, construction management and quality assurance. Dr Major focuses on negotiating, managing and directing the development and deployment of cost-effective remediation strategies for contaminated sites. He has over 15 years of practical remediation experience and is internationally recognized for his expertise on the application of monitored natural attenuation and enhanced *in situ* bioremediation of chlorinated solvents. His clients have included Fortune 500 companies, the US Department of Energy and Defence and NASA. He is acclaimed as a leader in the development, demonstration and application of emerging environmental technologies. Dr Major was inducted into the Space Hall of Fame in 2007 in recognition of his innovative technological contributions to NASA. The Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council, where he has developed and taught courses and is active on various workgroups, recognized his contributions through several awards. Dr Major is a sought-after presenter and the author of over 50 peer-reviewed environmental and remediation publications.



Leo E. Manzer, PhD



BSc Chemistry '70
Wilmington, Delaware

Leo E. Manzer is founder and President of Catalytic Insights LLC, a consulting company in the field of catalysis and process research. He was born and educated in Canada and after receiving his PhD in chemistry from the University of Western Ontario, he joined DuPont in Wilmington, Delaware. During his career at DuPont, he founded and directed the Corporate Catalysis Center and led DuPont's research and development effort to replace chlorofluorocarbons with ozone friendly substitutes. Dr Manzer retired from the DuPont Company in 2005 as a DuPont Fellow, a position currently held by only 15 out of 3,000 scientists and engineers. He is the author of 89 publications and 114 US patents (with over 500 international patents). He has received a number of awards, including: the 1995 ACS Earle B. Barnes Award; the 1997 Catalysis Club of Philadelphia Award; the 1997 ACS Heroes of Chemistry Award; the 1998 Cross-Canada Lecture Tour Award by the Catalysis Division of the Chemical Institute of Canada; the 2001 Eugene J. Houdry Award for Applied Catalysis from the North American Catalysis Society; and the 2003 ACS E. V. Murphree Award. He was a member of the DuPont team recognized for the 2002 Presidential National Medal of Technology Award for his work in developing chlorofluorocarbons alternatives.



Dr Mohamed Jawad Minhas

Honours Science '93 OD '93
Waterloo, Ontario

Since his graduation from University of Waterloo in 1993, Dr Minhas has been active in many non-government organizations and special interest advocacy groups which has led to being awarded the Zafar Sultan Memorial Trust Award, the Horizon Club Award and a Certificate of Recognition for Humanitarianism for his participation in Lions Club International and Gift of Sight projects that provide eye care and glasses to the underprivileged in many parts of the world. Dr Minhas has been in private practice in the Kitchener-Waterloo area since he became a Member of the College of Optometrists of Ontario in 1993. His experiences as Team Doctor Leader of international clinics inspired him to improve office efficiencies, which in turn allow more time to communicate with his patients and deliver quality care. With this goal, he redesigned and developed an innovative form of service delivery to clientele through merging various technologies and applications. This achievement resulted in winning the National DELL/RBC Small Business Excellence Award for Business Innovation. In addition to his career as an optometrist, Dr Minhas provides consultation to major corporations in vision care and telecommunications.

Kelly Roland Munkittrick

PhD Biology '88

St John, New Brunswick

Since arriving at the University of New Brunswick in 2001, Dr Munkittrick has focused on environmental health assessment, cumulative effects assessment and the impacts of industrial discharges on wild fish populations. The application of his research has culminated in the development of sensitive environmental monitoring programs that identify important impacts, the mechanisms of impact, and the stressors responsible for the impacts. The long-term objectives of the program are to develop a better understanding of the influence of life history characteristics of fish on their sensitivity to stress, and to determine how species differences in life history characteristics can be utilized to design more cost-efficient, sensitive monitoring programs. He has been instrumental in the development of the Canadian Rivers Institute, a flagship program for his institution, and developed tools with international relevance that have applications for watershed planning and industrial regulations. Dr Munkittrick does not limit his interests to only research. He sits on national science groups, grant committees, Boards of Directors, and external science review panels. During his short tenure at UNB he has written more than 100 publications, was a keynote speaker at conferences in over a dozen countries, has co-authored over 200 conference presentations and has presented at 50 conferences.



Willie Kusezweni Nduku

MSc Biology '70, PhD Biology '73

Harare, Zimbabwe

Dr Nduku is currently the Executive Director of Wildlife and Environment in Zimbabwe, Africa. As an avid wildlife conservationist, he developed a collaborative captive breeding program between Zimbabwe and international zoos in New York and Frankfurt. Dr Nduku has maintained an unwavering commitment to the preservation of wildlife across Africa, most notably elephants and rhinoceroses. He received an Award of Appreciation and Merit for the conservation and preservation of wildlife from University of Maryland and Frostburg State University. Dr Nduku has been recognized by the African Safari Club of Washington and the Crocodile Farmers Association of Zimbabwe for his dedication to the conservation and preservation of wildlife. He also spends time working with rural schools and communities to educate them on honey harvesting, developing plant nurseries and providing herbal remedies for ailments including HIV and AIDS. He shares his expertise in environmental management and conservation working with the Sadc Timber Producer Federation to control the damage by baboons to plantations.



Christopher K. Ober, PhD

BSc Chemistry '78
Ithaca, New York



Christopher Ober has dedicated his life to the pursuit of knowledge and discovery. Armed with a PhD from the University of Massachusetts in Polymer Science and Engineering, Dr Ober is a chaired professor at Cornell University in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering. His research interests include the synthesis, processing and characterization of functional polymers with tailored molecular architectures for predefined properties. In particular, he is noted for his work on lithography and advanced photoresists, working closely with the microelectronics industry. He is also interested in polymer behaviour, especially the self-organization/assembly of liquid crystalline polymers and block copolymers. With over 250 publications, 250 invited presentations and more than 30 patents under his belt, Dr Ober has received several awards for his work, including the 2007 Humboldt Research Prize and the 2006 ACS Award in Applied Polymer Science. He is continually involved in various professional affiliations, holding memberships in many professional groups, acting as associate editor of *Macromolecules* and Vice President of the IUPAC Polymer Division.

Andrew W. Panko, PhD

MSc Earth Sciences '77
Niagara-on-the-Lake



Andrew Panko is a geoscientist (APGO) and successful entrepreneur who has founded several environmental services and property development companies. After selling his first business, Arcturus Environmental Ltd., he founded Forensic Environmental Services Ltd. which he sold in 2002. He then established Brownfield Revolution Inc. Dr Panko is a founding partner of Associated Brownfields Inc., a brownfield development company that purchases, remediates and develops contaminated properties. He has a personal interest in railways; he has co-authored several books, including *Steam in Niagara* (1983), and has received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Canadian Railroad Historical Association. More recently he has been growing vinifera grapes on his family farm in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Dr Panko is also active within his community as a member and past president of the Rotary Club and several conservation and historical groups. He is a Life Member of the Thorold, Ontario volunteer firefighters. Dr Panko is a past Chair of the Board of Niagara Falls Hydro and the Niagara Falls Chamber of Commerce, past Vice-Chair of the Brock University Board of Trustees, is currently on the Board of Directors of Meridian Credit and Chair of the Board of Niagara Regional Broadband Network.

James (Jim) Reimer

**BSc '78 Earth Sciences, MSc Earth Sciences '80
Calgary, Alberta**



Mr Reimer currently works as Executive Vice-President with Result Energy Inc. in Calgary, Alberta. With over 28 years of industry experience in his portfolio, he has achieved a significant track record of hydrocarbon discovery and development of new exploration concepts. In the past, Mr Reimer has held several positions at the President and Vice-President levels of both large and small exploration and production companies. He has used this expertise to help mentor and mould many junior Canadian geologists. Additionally, he is the Past President of the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists and is currently the marketing chair for the Canadian National Steering Committee - International Year of Planet Earth (2008). He has also participated in numerous industry and professional advisory boards, including the executive policy group of the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers and the British Columbia Oil and Gas Commission. Mr Reimer was Chair of the first joint convention of the Societies of Petroleum Geologists, Exploration Geophysicists, and Well Logging and he played a key role in developing the hydrogeology division for the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists.

Dr Mary Lou Riederer

**OD '77
Abbotsford, British Columbia**



The fall after she graduated, Dr Riederer quickly co-founded an optometry clinic in Abbotsford, British Columbia. This clinic has grown, with the addition of five additional optometrists, to become the Complete Eye Care Optometry Clinic. Dr Riederer obtained a Masters Degree, majoring in Learning Disabilities, from Simon Fraser University. Over the years she has lectured to educators and parents on visually related learning problems. She incorporates this knowledge and experience in her unique practice. Dr Riederer served as a Councillor on the British Columbia Association of Optometrists (BCAO) for 18 years. She was President of the BCAO from 2003 to 2005 and was honoured with the Optometrist of the Year Award in 2006. She continues to represent the BCAO on interdisciplinary government committees to oversee vision screening programs and co-chairs the annual BCAO continuing education program. Outside her Optometry commitments, Mary Lou raised two sons and enjoys playing in the Langley Concert Band. Her other hobbies include tennis, golf and traveling.

Stephen Schaller

BSc Earth Sciences '88
St Lambert, Quebec



Stephen Schaller is a RADARSAT-1 Mission Planner for the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) in St. Hubert, Quebec. RADARSAT-1, Canada's first commercial Earth observation satellite, was developed by the CSA in cooperation with Canadian provincial governments and the private sector. The images it collects are useful in many fields, including agriculture, cartography, hydrology, forestry, oceanography, geology, ice and ocean monitoring, arctic surveillance—detecting ocean oil slicks and spills—and responding to environmental disasters, all which require fast imaging from space. For the past 10 years, Mr Schaller has participated in the planning and management of satellite image acquisitions as an On-Call Planner to respond to anomalies and major natural disasters. He has been able to apply his knowledge of geography and remote sensing to help clients on the Canadian Government Order Desk plan and order the best imagery for their needs. He has also acted as the Emergency In-Call Officer for the International Charter, Space and Major Disasters. This past summer has been an especially exciting time for Mr Schaller as the CSA prepares to launch RADARSAT-2, a superior successor to RADARSAT-1, in December, 2007, from a Soyuz vehicle based in Russia's Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.

Doug Seaborn

BSc Physics
Loma Linda, California



Mr Seaborn is a three-time software company entrepreneur and software product development executive. He was one of seven founders of SHL Systemhouse, Canada's first software company to complete an initial public offering in 1984. He subsequently founded GeoVision Corporation, a provider of geographic information systems technology to utilities and telecom providers, and led the growth of GeoVision from start-up to 200 employees supporting a world-wide customer base. After selling GeoVision in 1992, Mr Seaborn provided business planning and fund-raising assistance to fledgling software companies in Canada and the USA. In 1995, he helped plan, fund and launch VMI Medical, a provider of medical image and clinical information management software to help pediatric cardiologists detect and treat congenital heart disease in children. VMI Medical was chosen as one of "Canada's Top 10 Life Science Companies" by the Ottawa Life Science Council in 1999. In partnership with co-founder Omid McDonald, Mr Seaborn led VMI Medical's growth to 40 employees and three million dollars in annual sales by 2003. In addition to building his own companies, Mr Seaborn has served as a member of the Mathematics Strategy Board at UW and as a trustee and chairman of Riverside Hospital of Ottawa from 1982 to 1988. Mr Seaborn is currently a business development executive with Geographic Information Systems Provider ESRI, based in Redlands, California.

Dominick Shelton, MD

BSc Science '88
Toronto, Ontario

Dominick Shelton is an emergency physician in three of Ontario's leading hospitals: Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, Women's College Hospital and the Hospital for Sick Children. He is a former Director of Emergency Medicine at Women's College Hospital. As a medical expert in domestic violence and in gynaecologic emergencies, Dr Shelton has served on many hospital, university and provincial committees to educate his peers on how to deal with such medical issues. Dr Shelton has a strong sense of community and sees himself as a role model to visible minorities, co-founding the Association for the Advancement of Blacks in Health Sciences and the Faculty of Medicine Summer Mentorship Program at the University of Toronto. He hopes that exposure to such health sciences programs will encourage black and aboriginal high school students to pursue a career in this field. Dr Shelton also volunteers in rural clinics and hospitals in Jamaica and is the co-founder and camp physician of Camp Jumoke, a summer camp for children with sickle cell disease. His work has been acknowledged with several awards and honours including the Peters Academy Master Educator Award and the national Harry Jerome Award for academic achievement.



William (Bill) J. Sinclair

BSc Physics '76
Ottawa, Ontario

Bill Sinclair is the Chairman of Pandion Investments Ltd., his private family investment company. He is involved in venture capital and various other investing activities. The broad and diverse expertise Mr Sinclair has gained through his varied work experiences has provided him with a solid and proficient background to advise boards and start-up companies. In addition to his BSc from UW, Mr Sinclair has a Masters of Engineering in Engineering Physics from McMaster University as well as an Honorary Doctorate in Science from McMaster University. In 1981, he co-founded JDS Optics (later known as JDS Uniphase) and served as the company's President for 11 years and Director for 20 years. Mr Sinclair also created Fluorosense Inc., a company that develops state-of-the-art optical instruments for industrial and environmental applications. As a strong supporter of education and research, Mr Sinclair and his wife, Joyce, have established the William Sinclair Chair in Optoelectronics at McMaster University. At UW, his generosity to the Faculty of Science established the annual Physics Alumni Award and a leadership gift that has retrofitted and added equipment to several physics laboratories, benefiting hundreds of students each year. The Sinclairs recently made the inaugural donation for the Sprott Centre for Stem Cell Research at the Ottawa Health Research Institute.



Hendrik (Hennie) Snyman



PhD Physics '68
Port Elizabeth, South Africa

Dr Snyman is the retired Rector and Vice Chancellor of the Port Elizabeth Technikon and one of the founders of the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, South Africa. He obtained his BSc at the University of Cape Town in Mathematics and Physics, and his MSc in Physics from the University of South Africa. With a research interest in solid state physics, Dr Snyman has published more than 80 articles on crystal defect structures in metals and microelectronic materials through electron microscopy. In 1990, he was appointed to the first Council of the Foundation for Research Development, currently known as the National Research Foundation. He has been on numerous advisory councils and been involved with the National Commission for Higher Education, the USA-RSA Science and Technology Bi-National Commission of the Department of Arts, Culture, Science & Technology and acted as Chairman for the Committee of Technikon Principals. In 1989, while at the Port Elizabeth Technikon, now the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, Dr Snyman was the first head of a traditionally white higher-education institution that admitted black students to university residences without seeking permission of the Apartheid regime. In the 1990's he combated health issues and high levels of poverty in South Africa by developing the first HIV/AIDS policies at Port Elizabeth Technikon and provided condoms and education to students to assist in prevention and spread of the disease.



Edward A. Sudicky

MSc Earth Sciences '79, PhD Earth Sciences '83
Waterloo, Ontario

Edward Sudicky is a Professor in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences at the University of Waterloo whose research areas of interest include the mathematical modeling of groundwater flow and contaminant transport, groundwater remediation and groundwater-surface water interactions. He also holds the Canada Research Chair (Tier I) in Quantitative Hydrogeology and is a highly cited researcher who has been named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, the Canadian Academy of Engineering, the Geological Society of America and the American Geophysical Union. Dr Sudicky has been listed in the Canadian Who's Who and in Marquis Who's Who in Science and Engineering. He received the Geological Society of America's O.E. Meinzer Award in 1999 and the Hydrology Award from the American Geophysical Union in 2002. The National Groundwater Association will honour Dr Sudicky's work this fall, presenting him with the prestigious M. King Hubbert Award. In addition to his teaching and research duties, Dr Sudicky is a consultant to private companies. He has been invited to lecture internationally on numerous occasions and was the Association of Ground Water Scientists and Engineers Henry Darcy Distinguished Lecturer in 1994. He provides service to a number of scientific societies and associations and has acted as editor-in-chief and associate editor of several scientific journals.

Tiffany-Anne Svensson

BSc '88 Honours Science-Biology Minor, MSc '96 Earth Sciences
Waterloo, Ontario

In the world of Tiffany-Ann Svensson, people and community come first. Besides working as a hydrogeologist at Water and Earth Science Associates (WESA) in their Kitchener office, Ms Svensson volunteers extensively for the betterment of others. For 10 years she has co-led an annual fund-raiser for HopeSpring Cancer Support Centre in Waterloo, in memory of Gail Bendig, a fellow Earth Sciences classmate. At University of Waterloo, she has served on the Earth Sciences Graduate Association Executive, the Earth Sciences Museum Board of Directors, and assisted with the Waterloo Gem Show. Every month she and a team of Earth Sciences alumni make and serve meals at the OASIS Drop-in Center downtown Kitchener, Ontario. Ms Svensson is very involved with the youth in her community. She volunteers her expertise at the Regional Children's Groundwater Festival, makes groundwater presentations at elementary schools, coaches a girl's basketball team and serves on the Board of Directors for Ray of Hope, an agency that serves youth in crisis. She is an active participant and volunteer at her church in Waterloo. For their wedding last fall, Tiffany and David organized their friends to help finance a World Vision project to drill a well in the Democratic Republic of Congo.



Derek J. Taylor, PhD

BSc Biology '89
Buffalo, New York

Derek Taylor has taught at several universities including the University of Michigan, the University of Guelph and most recently at the University of Buffalo where he holds the position of Associate Professor in the biological sciences department. He graduated with his PhD in 1995 from the University of Guelph. As a researcher, Dr Taylor has received many major federal grants for his work including a NSF Career Young Investigator Award for his work entitled, "*Origin and evolution of endemic arctic freshwater crustaceans.*" He has guest-lectured on evolution and ecology at universities throughout the U.S. and Europe. Dr Taylor is heavily involved in student and university life, sitting on undergraduate and graduate committees, Faculty search committees, and Faculty advisory and Senate Committees. During the summer months he offers research opportunities to local high school students. Dr Taylor is the winner of the NSF Career Young Investigator Award for 2000-2006. In 2006, Dr Taylor organized a highly successful conference on molecular evolution at the University of Buffalo.



John M. Tiernay



BSc Chemistry '72, MSc Chemistry '75
Dresden, Ontario

John Tiernay's long and celebrated career at Union Carbide Canada Ltd/Nova Chemicals spanned 28 years. He held varied positions: an analytical specialist, a supervisor in production, human resources and health and safety, a management team leader in Plant Engineering and Responsible Care. During that time, Mr Tiernay pursued other external interests and led a volunteer-based life that clearly demonstrates his devotion to his community and beyond. He has been a member of the Petrolia Lions Club for 23 years, Director with Sarnia Lambton Crime Stoppers for four years, coached minor lacrosse, soccer and hockey leagues, co-led Boy Scouts and assisted a local community theatre group staging musical plays. For 26 years he has canvassed for the Ride for Sight – a motorcycle rally raising funds for vision research. Most notably, Mr Tiernay volunteers his time traveling with the Rayjon Share Care organization, a group dedicated to providing housing, school and health clinics, clean water and prescription eye glasses to the poor in developing countries. He has worked on projects in Haiti, Ecuador, Belize and Guatemala. Mr Tiernay is also a member of a musical trio entertaining at homes for seniors. He lives with his wife, Sheila, on their 50 acre farm near Sarnia, Ontario.



Jack T. Trevors

PhD Biology '82
Guelph, Ontario

Jack Trevors is an environmental microbiology professor at the University of Guelph whose research knowledge in environmental microbiology is recognized worldwide. In 2006 Dr Trevors was named a Fellow of The World Innovation Foundation – an impressive assignment enabling him to join forces with other top-notch scientists from all over the world in an attempt to address issues associated with global population growth and infectious diseases. His professional expertise spans over 25 years of microbiological research concentrating on understanding the survival and activities of diverse bacteria and the conditions under which they grow. His research is routinely published in the most prestigious journals and is in the top one per cent of cited scientists in biosciences. Dr Trevors has won several research awards, is a Fellow of the World Academy of Art and Science, The American Academy of Microbiology and a Fellow of the Institute of Biology, London, UK. He is an internationally invited speaker, consultant, editor-in-chief for several scientific journals and text books, participant in many scientific societies and committees and is even a science-fair judge for local high schools.

Roderick Wasylishen, PhD

BSc Chemistry '68
Edmonton, Alberta

Roderick Wasylishen is a Professor and Chair of the Physical Chemistry Division at the University of Alberta as well as a Tier I Canada Research Chair in Physical Chemistry. He has led an exemplary career as a research scientist in the general field of nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy. He has published more than 300 papers in peer-reviewed scientific journals and given well over 100 invited oral presentations. Dr Wasylishen is a founding member of Canada's National Ultrahigh-Field NMR Facility for Solids in Ottawa. He has had a long-term commitment to NSERC as a peer reviewer and committee member. Dr Wasylishen has been awarded the prestigious John C. Polanyi Lecture Award of the Canadian Chemical Society and the Gerhard Herzberg Award. He has been named Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, as well as Fellow of the Chemical Institute of Chemistry and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr Wasylishen is Editor-in-Chief of the Encyclopedia of Magnetic Resonance. He is married to Valerie Wasylishen (nee Burrows), a UW arts alumna (Psychology '67). He enjoys astronomy, photography, running and hiking in his spare time.



Alfred (Fred) Widmer

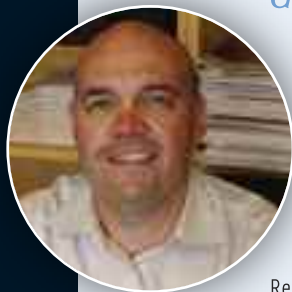
PhD Chemistry '78
Ryde, NSW, Australia

Fred Widmer has served in industry, government laboratories and academia in Switzerland, Denmark, the USA and Australia and is currently at the Centre for Infectious Diseases & Microbiology in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Sydney, Australia, located at Westmead Hospital. This Centre proved that a fungal enzyme, phospholipase B, is a virulence factor and thus might be a novel antifungal drug target. On this basis, using unorthodox and simple means, Dr Widmer identified three novel classes of antifungal compounds and discovered that Miltefosine, a drug approved for oral treatment of leishmaniasis, is active against fungi as well as against Gram positive bacteria. While this work is significant in providing a novel antifungal and antibiotic drug, it also constitutes a conceptual breakthrough in that it demonstrates for the first time that a given, licensed therapeutic agent is active against eukaryotic and prokaryotic categories of microbe. Besides inventing other chemical methodologies, he was one of two scientists who, from 1978-1982, established "enzymatic peptide synthesis" as a mainstream method in peptide chemistry. Dr Widmer then served as Director of Chemical Research for 12 years in the resultant company Peptech Ltd-- now a flourishing biotech company.



Gerard Wright

BSc Biochemistry '86, PhD Chemistry '91
Cambridge, Ontario




Gerard Wright is a Professor and Chair of the Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences at McMaster University. His research interests involve the chemical biology of antibiotic resistance, the mechanisms of antibiotic biosynthesis and the discovery of new antimicrobial targets and agents. He is the founder and Director of the McMaster Antimicrobial Research Centre and co-founder of the McMaster High Throughput Screening Facility. He has been the Canada Research Chair in Antimicrobial Biochemistry since 2001 and has received several awards for his work, including the Premiers' Research Excellence Award, the Polyani Prize and awards for his lecturing abilities. Dr Wright has been named in Canada's Who's Who circles and was a member of the Canadian Bacterial Disease Network. He is also a consultant for antimicrobial drug discovery and screening and currently sits on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Antibiotics* and *Chemistry and Biology*. He recently was named the inaugural M.G. DeGroot Chair of Infectious Disease Research at McMaster where he is establishing a new Institute for Infectious Disease which will combine aspects of both clinical and fundamental research in the search for new knowledge and therapies.

Gordon Zimmerman

BSc Chemistry '77
Toronto, Ontario



Gordon Zimmerman is a Partner at Borden Ladner Gervais LLP and has dedicated his legal career to the area of intellectual property. Nationally and internationally recognized as an expert in the field of patents, trademarks, copyright, designs, trade secrets, confidential information and related litigation, Mr Zimmerman has testified before Parliament during the Trademarks Act and Copyright Act amendments. In addition to the numerous publications he has produced for various law reviews and conference proceedings, Mr Zimmerman has lectured for the benefit of students and young people in the legal profession at several Canadian universities, including the University of Waterloo. He has also committed himself to his firm's "BLG Reads to Kids" program in which he regularly assists young children with reading difficulties. Outside of his career, Mr Zimmerman enjoys a well-rounded life with plenty of activities including skiing, tennis and kayaking. Most recently, he took up golf and this year achieved his first hole-in-one.



*To the Family and Friends
of the Distinguished Alumni and
Alumni of Honour recipients:*

Your steadfast love and support of these celebrated science alumni has not gone unnoticed or unappreciated. Through missed dinners, working vacations, inconvenient telephone calls and belated birthday wishes, your understanding has been the backbone on which their success has been built. For this we offer a most heart-felt thank you.