Fall/Winter 2005
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THE JOURNAL

For Alumni and Friends of
The University of Winnipeg

Opening Doors

DR. DOUGLAS W. LEATHERDALE
Changing Lives Through Education

RAY MCFEETORS & SHIRLEY RENDER
Distinguished Alumni Award Winners

THE NORTHWEST COMPANY:
Founding Donor to Wii Chii Waa Ka Nak

MICHAEL BAYER
New Alumni Association President

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- Directory of Members

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THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

features.

LEAD STORY:
MEET ALUMNUS DR. DOUGLAS W. LEATHERDALE | 6
Model Donor

ALUMNI IN THE FAMILY | 5
New Alumni President Michael Bayer

BUILDING A CAMPAIGN FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG | 8

TAKE FLIGHT | 10
UWinnipeg Professor Keith Fulton

THE NORTH WEST COMPANY | 17
Founding Donor to Wii Chii Waa Ka Nak

PERFECT POISE | 18
Collegiate Alumna Tara Birtwhistle

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD WINNERS | 20/21
Ray McFeetors & Shirley Render

content.

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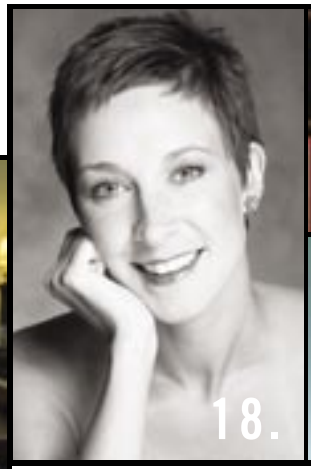

departments.

YOUR LETTERS 2
EDITOR'S NOTE 3
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES 3
PRESIDENT'S LETTER 4
ALUMNI NEWS BRIEFS 12
CLASS ACTS 22
ALUMNI AUTHORS 26
IN MEMORIAM 27
LOOKING BACK 28

news.

DEMONSTRATING COMMITMENT TO STUDENTS 9
IDA MARGOLIS & EDNA WHITCOMB, HONORARY BA RECIPIENTS 9
SUMMER INSTITUTE ON DISEASE 14
HISTORICA TEACHERS' INSTITUTE 15
GIFTED & TALENTED CHILDREN 16

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YOUR LETTERS

THANK YOU

The article on the new Writer-in-Residence program in honour of my late wife **Carol Shields** was a first-class piece of reporting. Thank you.

Don Shields
Mount Kisco, New York

SPECIAL MEMORIES

I attended The University of Winnipeg Alumni & Friends event in Vancouver in February 2005, and had a wonderful time chatting with University staff, **Lloyd Axworthy**, members of Carol Shields' family, and fellow alumni members now living in the Lower Mainland. The bartender and I even created a drink in The University of Winnipeg colours. I dubbed the mixture of white wine and red cranberry juice the "Wesmen Cocktail."

A short while later, I visited my sister in Edmonton. While there, I was able to get together for dinner with some other school friends that I hadn't seen since elementary and high school days in Winnipeg. These two events inspired me to write the poem [at right] "Reunion." I wanted to communicate to all members of the Alumni Association how special the memories of my University days are to my heart. Perhaps the poem will inspire some former graduates to get more involved in the Alumni Association, and to reconnect with old friends. I hope so. It gives a joy beyond compare!

Janice Iverach Wasik, BA '71
Delta, BC

Reunion

Childhood memories, the good old days,
The past made us who we are.
So many questions for smiling faces,
As we gather from near and far.

How many years has it really been?
You haven't changed for me.
The eyes, the smile, the way you laugh
Can't hide the old you I see.

Where do you live? What did you become?
Have you had a happy life?
It's hard to believe we're standing here
To introduce our husband or wife.

What ever happened to "what's his name?"
Do you remember him ... and her?
Out come the yearbooks and photographs.
We're back where we once were.

Turn the pages. Go back in time.
The years seem to melt away.
Memories of old dreams flood our minds.
We have so many things to say.

A camera to capture the youth reborn
Can't convey the energy here.
We talk non stop, we laugh and hug,
As we journey back through each year.

Life is a journey for girls and boys.
It's a road shared by women and men.
You're part of me and I'm part of you.
I'm glad our paths crossed again.

The time has flown and we must part.
I wish we could stay some more.
Let's treasure this time and keep in touch,
'Til we meet at Heaven's door.

EXCELLENT UPDATE

I'd like to offer a few words about our last *Journal* and the late Professor **Richard (Dick) Veatch** of the Political Science Department.

I wanted to say how wonderfully the *Journal* is prepared, presented, and laid out. If it was done quarterly it would be even better... But, if it cannot be done due to logistical and cost constraints, that's fine with me.

One of the reasons I am truly fond of The University of Winnipeg has to do with the size of the place and some of the people—especially open and accessible professors—I have met, spoken to, and truly learned from at this University.

Professor Veatch was one of them among others **(Ken Gibbons, Joel Dudek, Carol Harvey** are other excellent examples). I had the great fortune to be one of Professor Veatch's students. Ironically, he was an American who studied in Geneva, Switzerland but taught internationalism at a small Canadian university. In finding out about his passing, I shed a tear. Professor Veatch was not only a brilliant man, but also a very humble, kind, and compassionate person. You could feel these qualities in him, especially when he gave so much time to talk to you personally and to others.

Daniel Louer, BA '91
Winnipeg, MB

"Your Letters" is your opportunity to contribute to your alumni magazine. Please share with us comments on the stories we publish, ideas about articles we might cover in the future, and memories of your time at Wesley College, United College, or The University of Winnipeg. Letters can be emailed to the editor at l.cherney@uwinnipeg.ca or sent by regular mail to:

Lois Cherney, Alumni Office, The University of Winnipeg 4W21 - 515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 2E9

EDITOR'S NOTE

Opening Doors

This month, we're holding a grand "door opening" to celebrate the restoration of the historic front doors of our landmark building, Wesley Hall (see front cover). At the festivities, in the midst of the excitement during the first weeks of classes, the University will pay tribute to its long tradition of excellence and reflect on the many doors that have been opened to students as a result of their education here.

As alumni, we've all gone through many doors on campus – those leading to classrooms and the Library, where knowledge is shared, and other entrances leading to residences, cafeterias, and common areas, where friendships form and memories are made.

But a liberal arts and science education is also about opening doors to possibilities. The University of Winnipeg offers a venue to explore new ideas and to gain a greater understanding of others' perspectives. An undergraduate degree often leads to further education, rewarding volunteer service, and a successful career. It can also be a passageway to self-knowledge and to a deeper understanding of our world. Enriched by the University experience, many alumni go on to make significant contributions to society.

Alumni know first-hand the value of a liberal arts and science education. And it is through our continued support that, along with the support of faculty, staff and the broader community, we can help to ensure the University's doors to a world of possibilities are kept wide open for future generations.

Lois Cherney, Editor

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HAS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES TO SUIT A WIDE RANGE OF INTERESTS AND TIME COMMITMENTS. BY GETTING INVOLVED—A LITTLE OR A LOT!—YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO THE ASSOCIATION, TO STUDENTS, AND TO YOUR UNIVERSITY.

Food for Thought - Distribute snacks and offer encouragement to students during exam time.

Alumni Council - Serve on the 12-member council, which meets regularly to make decisions on policy and programming. Each member serves a three-year term. In addition, three alumni are selected to serve on the University's Board of Regents.

Alumni Council Teams - Share your ideas by joining one of the Council's teams - Events and Outreach, Volunteers, or Communications.

Award Selection Committees - Pick a winner! Alumni representatives are needed to serve on University committees that select winners of entrance scholarships and faculty/staff awards.

Career Mentor - Share your career insight and experiences with students and other alumni. Register for this volunteer opportunity through the new online community at **www.uwinnipeg.ca/alumni**

Convocation - Welcome our newest members and raise money for scholarships by selling degree frames before or after the Convocation ceremonies in October or June.

Scholarship Presenters - Visit high schools in June to present University of Winnipeg entrance scholarships to outstanding high school graduates.

First-Year Student Orientation - Welcome the freshies and their parents to campus at orientation in September.

Alumni Network - For those who have left Winnipeg, volunteer to welcome an alum who is moving to your city and help them get orientated to the new surroundings. Register at the new online community at **www.uwinnipeg.ca/alumni**

"Lost" Alumni Researchers - Trace the whereabouts of alumni with whom we have lost contact and welcome them back to the Alumni Association.

If you are interested in any of these volunteer opportunities, please contact Lois Cherney at l.cherney@uwinnipeg.ca or 204.786.9134.

Exciting Times

Neighbourhood children (left to right) Erik, Camilo, Marcel, and Biyo helped plant and water the new flowers on Spence Street along with Minister of Transportation Ron Lemieux (left), Dr. Lloyd Axworthy, Mayor Sam Katz, and Winnipeg South Centre M.P. Anita Neville.

The University of Winnipeg is actively focused on reaching out to the community—celebrating and sharing the transformative power of education, fresh perspectives, critical thinking, and problem solving.

Summer was a busy time on campus. Much progress has been made since the Spring/Summer 2005 *Alumni Journal*.

On August 8, 2005, with the assistance of every level of government, The University of Winnipeg and the community realized a 25-year-old dream—the historic transformation of Spence Street into a community-pedestrian mall with opportunities for every member of this community to learn, grow, and evolve.

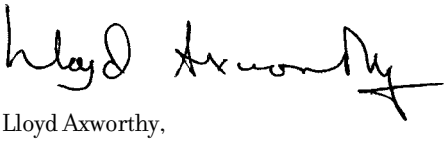
Spence Street between Portage and Ellice avenues will provide enhanced services and amenities to students and the community, including a one-way transit lane, paved bicycle path, much-needed green space, and a safer and more vibrant campus.

And the campus is evolving in other ways. A new Student Services Kiosk opened this Fall and is well on its way to providing a one-stop shop for students. A Campus Community Ambassador program is just one of several new safety initiatives introduced this Fall. And our students are out and about in the community like never before—mentoring children in the arts, sciences, and sports.

As we went to press with the Fall/Winter 2005 *Alumni Journal*, The University of Winnipeg OmniTRAX/Broe QUEST War-Affected Children conference was in high gear. Hosted by the University's Global College, the two-day event featured Alexandre (Sacha) Trudeau, Olara Otunnu, and Jimmie Briggs, who provided thoughts and lessons learned from their work with child soldiers and children in conflict. The National Film Board joined the University to premiere the documentary "Peacekeepers." Key insights from the conference will make their way into a report that is meant to guide governments as they review foreign and domestic policy.

The University of Winnipeg is living out its mission—engaging with our students, the community, and the world. There is still much to do. We will be coming to you for your ideas and your support in creating a campus where students and community can gather, learn, dream, debate, and act.

Join us as we continue, together, to enrich our civil society for generations to come.



Lloyd Axworthy,
President and Vice-Chancellor

PRESIDENT AXWORTHY TO VISIT HONG KONG THIS FALL

University President **Lloyd Axworthy** (BA '61, LLD '98) will be visiting Asia, including Hong Kong and Beijing, the week of November 21, 2005. He is looking forward to connecting with alumni and friends in that part of the world and plans are underway to host a number of events and meetings.

One of the purposes of Dr. Axworthy's visit will be to reach out beyond Canada's borders and establish new global ties with other academic institutions, government departments, organizations, and business partners. He will also re-affirm existing agreements in China with North West International Secondary School, North West University, and North China University.

As a former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Axworthy has a keen interest and specialized knowledge of international relations. He was involved in Britain's handover of Hong Kong to China in 1997 and helped to ensure a smooth transition. He now returns to Asia as a university president with the aim of recruiting students, expanding knowledge and research opportunities, and generating interest in the University's new Global College.

The Global College is a dynamic action-oriented, multi-disciplinary addition to the education options available to students. It brings students face to face with visiting scholars from around the world, members of the international community who now call Winnipeg home, faculty, and international students. It's a place for research, dialogue, and action. It's a place where we can figure out our role within the global community, our responsibility to protect, and our responsibility to act.

Another highlight of Dr. Axworthy's visit will be to host a **special event for alumni and friends living in Hong Kong.** The Alumni Office will be sending out invitations next month to approximately 350 alumni in Hong Kong. However, an additional 130 are "lost"—their last known addresses are in Hong Kong, but we do not have information on their current whereabouts. **Please help us to locate these graduates, so that we can ensure they are invited to this special event and receive the *Journal* magazine again.** Their names are listed in the alumni section of the University's website at **www.uwinnipeg.ca/alumni** If you have any information on their whereabouts, please contact the Alumni Office at **alumni@uwinnipeg.ca**

alumni in the family

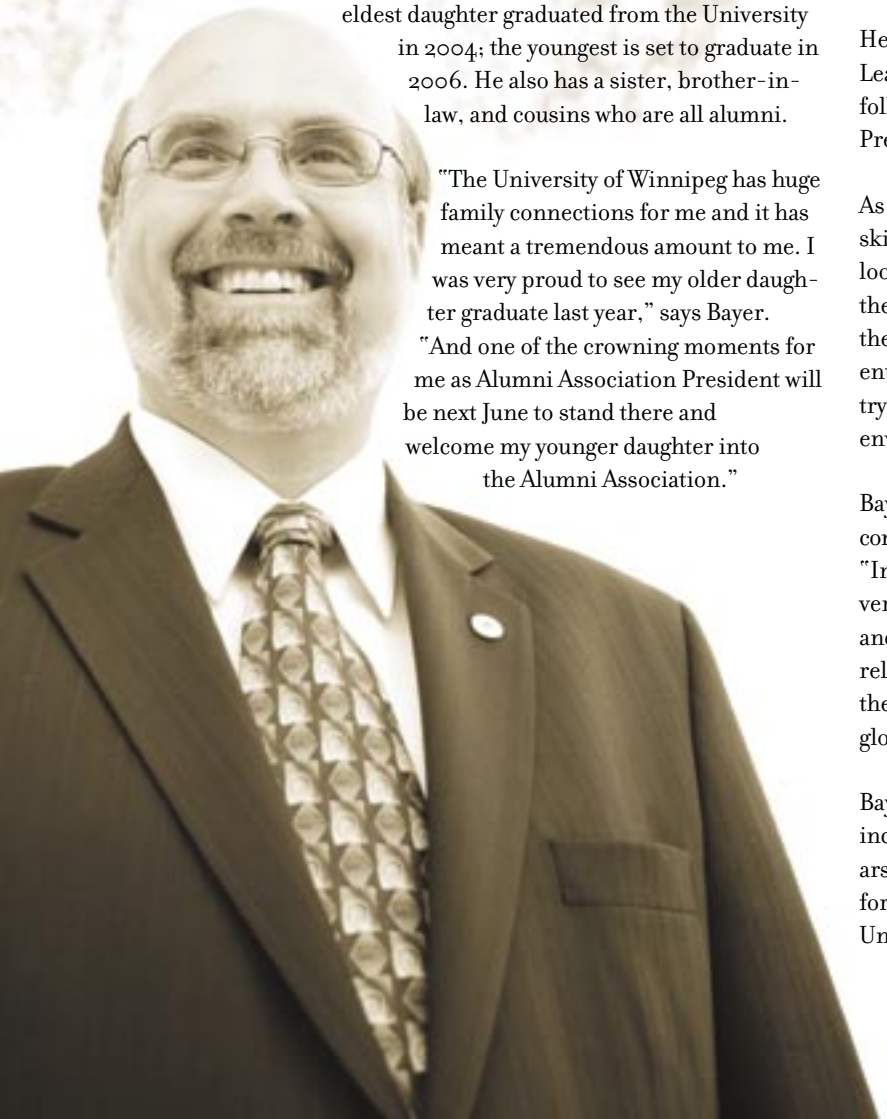
New Alumni Association President

TEXT: Kerry Ryan BA '96 **PHOTO:** grajewski.fotograph

Michael Bayer's family tree is rooted firmly in The University of Winnipeg.

"If it weren't for The University of Winnipeg, I wouldn't have my family. Literally," says Bayer, now President of The University of Winnipeg Alumni Association. He goes on to explain that he met his wife in a second-year organic chemistry class at the University in the 1970s.

But the family connections don't end there. Bayer's eldest daughter graduated from the University in 2004; the youngest is set to graduate in 2006. He also has a sister, brother-in-law, and cousins who are all alumni.



"The University of Winnipeg has huge family connections for me and it has meant a tremendous amount to me. I was very proud to see my older daughter graduate last year," says Bayer. "And one of the crowning moments for me as Alumni Association President will be next June to stand there and welcome my younger daughter into the Alumni Association."

After a long hiatus from the University's halls where he began his B.Sc. "fresh out of high school," Bayer returned to complete that degree in 1990. He then went on to earn a BA in Administrative Studies from the University in 1995. He now works as a professional speaker, traveling throughout Canada and the US to help organizations through periods of change—focusing on humour in the workplace and the power of laughter. He's also a professional magician and clown known as "Sparkles."

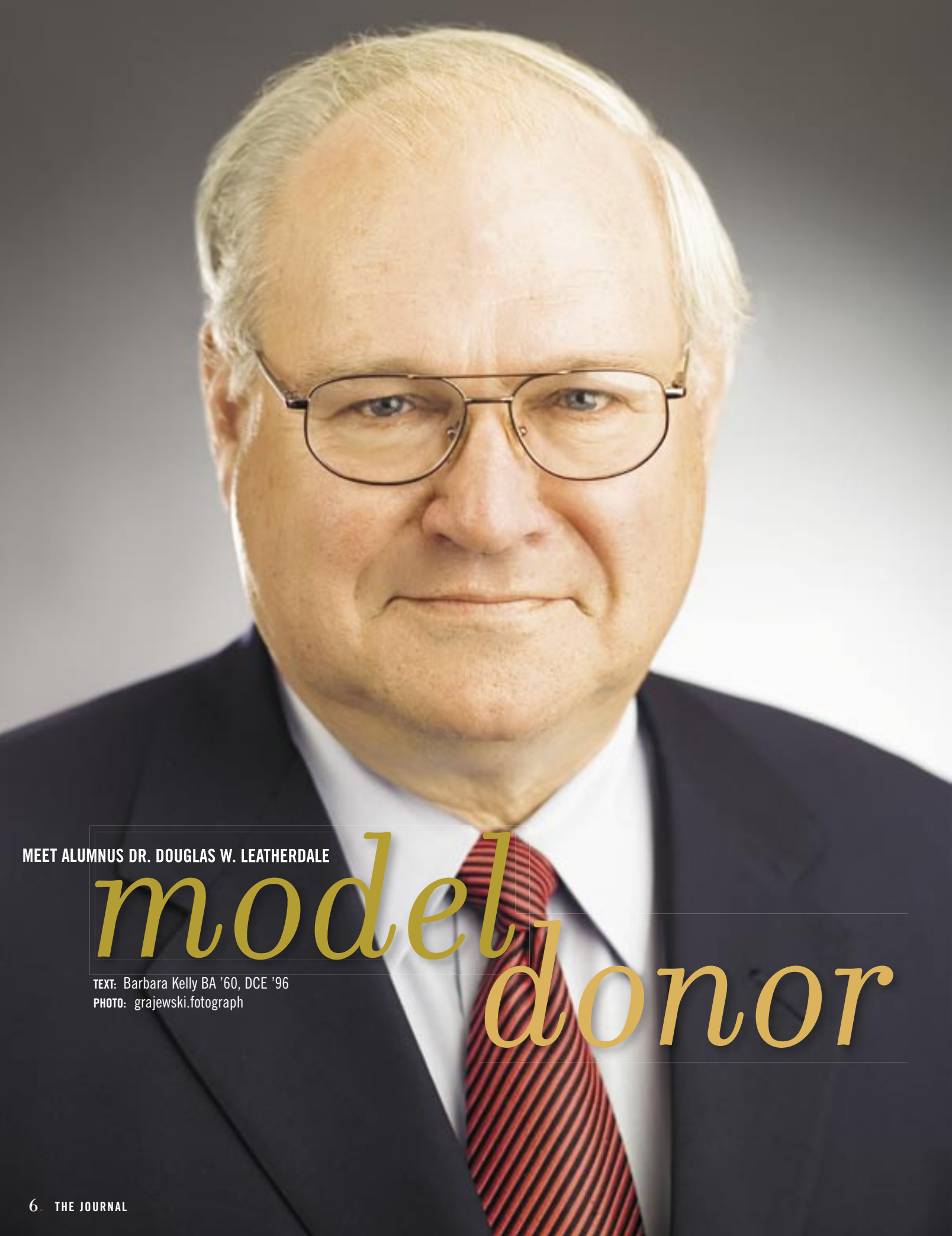
The University family drew him back once again four years ago, this time as a volunteer. Bayer responded to a call in the *Journal* for alumni to present scholarships at high school graduation ceremonies. "It's a pretty good job," jokes Bayer. "You hand out someone else's money and everybody loves you!"

He then joined the Alumni Council, working as Assistant Team Lead, then Team Lead of the Events and Outreach Committee, followed by a year as Vice-President before his current role as President, taking over from **Debra Radi** (B.Ed. '81, BA '85).

As President, Bayer brings leadership and communications skills, as well as a sense of humour. "The Alumni Association looks for opportunities to get involved with the University, the students, and the faculty," says Bayer. "We have fun, but the focus is on opening doors. Whether it's the student orientation or moving day with the international students, we're trying to get students engaged in their studies and their new environment."

Bayer's vision for his term as President also extends into the community—both the University family and the larger community. "In the past few years, the Association leadership has been very proactive in getting us involved with the administration and the Foundation. And it's my intention to strengthen these relationships even further," he says, adding he is excited by the University's leadership role in both the downtown and global communities.

Bayer also has specific goals in mind for the Association, including working towards having the Family of Alumni scholarship fund endowed to provide a sustained source of support for students with strong family ties—like his own—to The University of Winnipeg.



MEET ALUMNUS DR. DOUGLAS W. LEATHERDALE

model donor

TEXT: Barbara Kelly BA '60, DCE '96
PHOTO: grajewski.fotograph

From farm boy to Chairman of the Board, from student to philanthropist—**Dr. Douglas W. Leatherdale's** journey leads him to pay tribute to the University that he credits with changing his life.

In February 2005, Douglas Leatherdale contributed $500,000 to establish the Dr. Douglas W. Leatherdale Global Citizen Internships in conjunction with the launch of the University's Global College. He also added another $500,000 to a scholarship he established earlier in honour of his father **Walter Leatherdale.** His staunch support includes a generous planned gift, making him a member of the University's Legacy Circle.

"I came from a farm background in rural Manitoba, from a one-room school, and then a small town high school. My eyes were opened to a new world—politically, culturally, and geographically—at United College," says Leatherdale. "The small classes, the discussions that didn't stop at the end of class, the outstanding and controversial professors—all contributed to the most important period of my life."

Leatherdale was the first in his family to attend university. A United College graduate of 1957, he was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws from The University of Winnipeg in 2000.

"I was a farm kid who entered a highly stimulating community of scholars and activists, so I know what doors can open as a result," says the retired Chairman and CEO, The St. Paul Companies, Inc., and former resident of Morden, Manitoba. "It is my hope that the Global Citizen Internships will succeed in strengthening minds and expanding the boundaries of thought."

Leatherdale's Internships will assist five students each year with costs associated with tuition and expenses incurred in study at a foreign university or, for international interns, at The University of Winnipeg.

As well as establishing the Internship fund, Leatherdale continues to support the Walter Leatherdale Scholarships in memory of his father. His recent contribution has raised the fund value to over $1 million. The Walter Leatherdale Scholarships annually provide significant entrance awards for two students from rural Manitoba, covering tuition, books, and living expenses, and are renewable for up to three years.

"My father, who had a Grade 5 education, was an incredible influence on me," Leatherdale says. "He was determined that I would get a good education. He instilled in me not only the desire for education, but also a sense of discipline and healthy pride in accomplishments. I want others to be able to duplicate the transformational experience that my university education was for me."

"Dr. Leatherdale's gifts have the power to make a tremendous impact on the capacity of our students to contribute as citizens in our global community," says University President **Lloyd Axworthy** (BA '61, LLD '98). "We're grateful for his leadership and gifts."

Leatherdale's contributions to the community are far-reaching. He is a life member and former chair of the board of trustees of The University of Minnesota Foundation.

"We are so proud of our alumni who give time, energy, and resources to our beloved University. Dr. Leatherdale sets an outstanding example of how alumni can contribute. He is a committed volunteer, serving on The University of Winnipeg Foundation Board. He is also a model donor, in that he gives annually, he established an endowed fund, he contributes to the capital campaign, and he has made a planned gift as part of his legacy."

— Susan A. Thompson, President and CEO, The University of Winnipeg Foundation

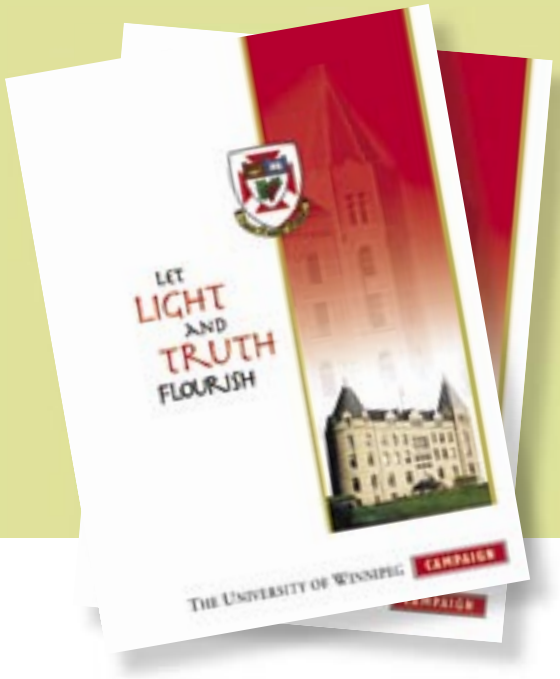
He was appointed by the Governor of Minnesota to chair the University of Minnesota's Commission on Excellence. A leader in corporate giving, Leatherdale was founding chair of the Capital City Partnership and a member of the Committee to Encourage Corporate Philanthropy. "Once a farm kid, always a farm kid," Leatherdale laughs, recounting his leadership as chair of the American Hanoverian Society and his enjoyment in raising Hanoverian horses with his wife Louise on their farm in Long Lake, Minnesota.

"There are so many ways to participate in supporting The University of Winnipeg," Leatherdale says. "Remembering and nourishing the institution that leads the way to a richer life is a satisfying way of giving thanks."

Leatherdale wants students to have a wide range of options through education. "The more choices we give them, the more possibilities there are," Leatherdale says, "and the more benefits come to our communities and the wider world."

"Douglas Leatherdale's commitment to his alma mater is inspiring," says **Susan Thompson** (Collegiate '67, BA '71), "and it speaks to the power of this University to change lives. It is gratifying to see him exert his influence now, just as his own father influenced him."

FOUNDATION FEATURE



TEXT: Daile Unruh

BUILDING *a campaign*

For The University of Winnipeg

University fundraising campaigns involve the creativity, energy, and time of countless volunteers. Much of the activity of planning takes place behind the scene and is years in the making. Campaigns of this magnitude are often rolled out in phases.

The University of Winnipeg Foundation, working with President **Lloyd Axworthy** (BA '61, LLD '98), the Board of Regents, the University community, and community partners, is already hard at work implementing an important preliminary phase of the upcoming University of Winnipeg Campaign.

This phase includes creating the Campaign "look and feel." The Campaign art (see inset) incorporates important University symbols such as the crest, the Wesley Hall icon, the University colours of red and white, and the University's motto as the Campaign theme: Lux et veritas floreant—Let light and truth flourish.

The Internal Family Campaign, another integral part of this preliminary phase, was launched September 14, 2005. This initiative brings together faculty, staff, and retirees and focuses on raising funds for scholarships and bursaries, providing direct support for students. The target set for the Internal Family Campaign is $1 million, of which over half is already in hand due to generous support by faculty, staff, and retirees.

Details related to priority fundraising areas for the overall University of Winnipeg Campaign are now being established, and, once finalized, will serve as the focus a subsequent phase of the broader Campaign—helping the University reach unparalleled excellence with improved accessibility and better opportunities for students in the future. The University has identified three main priority areas thus far:

- **Development of Scholarships and Bursaries** is a primary focus for the overall Campaign as well as for the Internal Family Campaign. University President Lloyd Axworthy sees awards as a fundamental component, and **H. Sanford Riley**, University Chancellor and Chair of the Foundation's Board, concurs. "Our University community is intent on providing opportunities for bright and dedicated students to attend The Collegiate and the University," says Riley. "At the same time, our University strives to keep the doors open to everyone. Affordability is a key issue."

"With contributions from all levels of government and every facet of the business and private sector, we aim to put in place the resources to encourage students to attend our University and to let them concentrate on their education," adds **Susan Thompson** (Collegiate '67, BA '71), Foundation President and CEO.

- Another area of focus is **Academic Enhancements**. "We live in a rapidly changing world that is becoming increasingly global in its perspective," says President Axworthy, who also serves as Chair of the Internal Family Campaign. "Universities, in their role of preparing students to contribute positively to the global community, must provide academic training that responds to this reality."

- Finally, the overall Campaign will build on areas of excellence and expand horizons with a vision for the future supported by innovative **Capital Improvements**. First among these is restoration of the University's historical icon, Wesley Hall, supported by a grant of $14 million from the Province of Manitoba. Other exciting capital projects are now in pre-approval phases and will in due course form part of the Campaign plan.

These identified areas—Scholarships and Bursaries, Academic Enhancements, and Capital Improvements—constitute the primary focus of The University of Winnipeg's overall Campaign and will enable our University to remain rooted in its extraordinary traditions of excellence while ensuring that light and truth can flourish through our University for generations to come.

"One of the most exciting things about all phases of the overall Campaign," says Campaign Chair and Foundation Director **R.M. (Bob) Kozminski** (BA '67), "is the number of ambassadors who are demonstrating such a strong commitment to The University of Winnipeg. Clearly," says Kozminski, "anticipation is growing as we work towards a Campaign to enable our University to make an even more significant contribution to the future of our students and to the future of our communities."

UWINNIPEG FAMILY SETS UNPRECEDENTED $1 MILLION INTERNAL CAMPAIGN GOAL

TEXT: Maureen Britton **PHOTO:** Steve Salnikowsky

When asked what they remember most fondly about The University of Winnipeg, alumni invariably say it's the people—those faculty and staff who went out of their way to make students feel welcome.

This caring commitment to students is once again being demonstrated through the faculty, staff, and retirees' Internal Family Campaign for the University. Beginning this Fall, peer-to-peer asks will be made in support of the Internal Family Campaign. Faculty, staff, and retirees will be asked to donate—through a pledge—to scholarships and bursaries or other areas that benefit students.

"Faculty, staff, and retirees see first-hand the critical need for student financial support," says **Dr. Mavis Reimer** (BA Hons. '76), English Professor and Vice-Chair of the Internal Family Campaign. "We know our gifts make a difference to students struggling to balance education with work and family life, and encourage students to achieve a high level of academic excellence."

The Internal Family Campaign has set an ambitious goal to raise $1 million, half of which has already been committed. "Faculty, staff, and retirees are generous by nature," says Reimer, "but this is an ambitious and unprecedented amount for a single campaign. We are confident that, with record participation, we will be successful."

The Internal Family Campaign was launched September 14, 2005 on the front steps of the fresh faced Wesley Hall. The event was both a kick-off and a celebration. "This phase of the Campaign has been long awaited by the University community," says Reimer. "It shows our enthusiasm for this institution and sets the momentum for the upcoming alumni, corporate, and public campaign phases."

IDA MARGOLIS AND EDNA WHITCOMB

Honorary BA Recipients

Ida Margolis

Edna Whitcomb

TEXT: Ilana Simon '84

Ida Margolis and Edna Whitcomb have spent the last 20 years exploring, debating, and discussing everything from world politics to medical ethics thanks to The University of Winnipeg's Division of Continuing Education (DCE) 55+ Program.

At Spring Convocation, held June 5, 2005 The University of Winnipeg awarded Margolis and Whitcomb Honorary BA degrees in recognition of their participation in the 55+ Program for 20 years or more and their commitment to lifelong learning.

Whitcomb encourages other seniors to participate in the 55+ Program and get involved in University life. "I tell them how I like it and that it's the way to go," says Whitcomb, who believes in the importance of staying active and engaged.

As a young woman, Whitcomb was ready to attend university, but says a post-secondary education just wasn't in the cards. "When I was young I was smart enough kid, but I just didn't have enough money to go to university," she recalls. Instead, she married, raised a family, and took on a variety of part-time jobs. When she retired in the 1980s, she heard about DCE's 55+ Program. Finally, it was her chance to attend university. "Better late than never!" laughs Whitcomb, now 93. "And this time, there's no exams—you can just enjoy it."

Margolis, who graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1932 with a BA, spent years raising her family and working as a volunteer with mentally and physically challenged adults, unwed mothers, and new immigrants.

Like Whitcomb, when she heard about the DCE 55+ Program she was immediately interested. So much so that since registering for her first class, and in spite of getting around mainly by wheelchair now, the 93-year-old Margolis has attended weekly classes continuously for two decades. "I enjoy the wide range of topics offered through the 55+ Program and am glad I have been able to keep coming regularly," says Margolis. Adds Whitcomb, "It gets you out, you learn something, and you meet other people. With all of those things, why wouldn't you attend?"

With wings spread wide,
a figure that is half-bird and half-woman cranes her head forward
leaning away from her perch and preparing to

Take Flight.

TEXT: Annette Elvers BA (Hons.) '93 **PHOTO:** grajewski.fotograph

"I have a vision of a university," says Fulton, detailing that it is one which includes fairness, openness, acceptance, and the spirit of community.

"She is seeing something and just going for it," says English professor **Keith Fulton**, describing a clay figure she crafted. "To where, the sculpture doesn't tell us—it is a moment of possibility." She gestures to the row of sculptures that line the top of an upright piano in her Wolseley-area home, "They are all about that kind of transformative experience, that moment of pushing off."

Fulton began working with clay in 2002 when she developed rheumatoid arthritis. The exercise of kneading clay and working it into images helped bring mobility back to her hands, but it also allowed her to work through creative ideas in ways she never expected. "The world that is opening to me by trusting my senses has been one of the gifts of arthritis," says Fulton. She unselfconsciously speaks with her hands, demonstrating the mobility she was losing. But along with the physical effects of working with clay has also come a renewed understanding of the artistic process, something she brings to the classroom and uses as a teaching tool.

"I have always offered students the alternative of using creative projects as a way of responding to the literature we're reading," says Fulton. "I'm beginning to understand the importance of that now." **Justin Dyck**, currently an English major at UWinnipeg, is a potter. He studied Gay and Lesbian Literature with Fulton, but has also sought her out after class to discuss both his studies and his art. "It's a really special connection that we're able to share a medium that is breaking out of language in a lot of ways," says Dyck. "It's a way of a different story, it has to do with the body, with things tangible and tactile—that's the thing that drew me to pottery."

For Fulton, artistic and nonverbal work like Justin's is a complement to literature, not a contradiction. "When students start to work creatively in response to literature, their understanding just blossoms," says Fulton, explaining that when students tap into their own creativity it allows them to better understand writers' experiences in bringing their thoughts to the page.

Melanie Unrau (BA Hons. '02) is a published author, and the University's Gold Medalist in English Honours for her graduating class. "She was very encouraging of me as a poet, and worked with me on my poetry outside of class," says Unrau. "I always found her to be very welcoming and sensitive, but at the same time she wasn't there to make things too easy or to get me out of things—she always challenged me and inspired me to do a good job."

Not surprisingly, Fulton is also a recipient of the Clifford J. Robson Award for Excellence in Teaching, presented annually to a faculty member who brings a special quality to the classroom—the ability to make a subject relevant and bring it to life.

In Spring 2005, Fulton was awarded the Robin H. Farquhar Award for her work in self-governance. "I have a vision of a university," says Fulton, detailing that it is one which includes fairness, openness, acceptance, and the spirit of community. "And whenever I encountered a way to work that would further that vision I accepted the challenge, if I possibly could."

In addition to her role as a professor of English and Women's Studies, Fulton has worked on committees involved in curriculum strategy, the restructuring of the Faculty of Arts and Science, The University of Winnipeg Faculty Association (UWFA) Pay Equity Committee, and the Aboriginal Initiatives Academic Planning Committee—to name a few. Fulton has also been a key figure in nurturing the University's successful Women's Studies program since its beginning in the 1980s.

"Those of us who know Keith—and by now, just about everyone in the University knows her from serving on some committee together—treasure her experience, judgment, energy, and immense people skills she brings to her self-governance work," says **Linda Dietrick**, professor of German.

"I have been trying to create a university, an all-around university, that really helps students grow into the people they want to be," explains Fulton. "You can't just do that in the classroom, or just in one area. It's all the way around."

Unrau says it's Fulton's dedication to living out her beliefs in every context that makes her such a special professor. "I think that she is a good example to her students, the way that she lives and the way that she treats all of us," says Unrau, underlining Fulton's commitment to respect and equality. "Her values come through in everything she does. Maybe that's why so many of us like her."

ALUMNI NEWS BRIEFS

TEXT: Joanne Struch BA (Hons.) '94 **PHOTOS:** various

From left to right: Alumni Association Past President Debra Radi, honoured guests Shirley Render and Lisa Dveris, wife of the late Sheldon Oberman, and University President Lloyd Axworthy.

ALUMNI CELEBRATE **DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI**

Distinguished Alumni Award winners **Shirley Render** (BA '64) and **Sheldon Oberman** (BA '72) were honoured at a reception on June 3, 2005. Family, friends, and alumni gathered at the Manitoba Club to pay tribute to these two University of Winnipeg graduates who have contributed so much to the community. The Distinguished Alumni Award is presented to a graduate who has had exceptional achievement and who has demonstrated service to the University or community. Author Sheldon Oberman received the award posthumously at the Fall 2004 Convocation and pilot, politician, and international speaker Shirley Render received the award at the 2005 Spring Convocation.

PROFESSORS SHARE PASSION FOR LITERATURE AND HISTORY WITH ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

Alumni and friends joined **Carol Harvey**, professor of French Studies at The University of Winnipeg, to explore the world of Gabrielle Roy on April 21, 2005, through a visit to Roy's home and a walking tour of St. Boniface. One of Canada's most influential authors, Roy was born in St. Boniface and it was the setting for some of her stories. Tour participants got an in-depth look at Roy's life and experiences in the community.

Nolan Reilly, Chair of The University of Winnipeg's History Department, was the guide for the Winnipeg General Strike Tour on May 3, 2005. Participants visited sites associated with the strike such as the Exchange District's Old Market Square and toured a labour temple in Winnipeg's North End. "Dr. Reilly has a wealth of knowledge about our city's rich history," said participant **Deanna England** (BA Hons. '98), who had been on the waiting list for the tour the year before. "It made the city seem somehow more interesting."

Professor Carol Harvey (middle), in front of St. Boniface Cathedral, speaks to the group about the life of Gabrielle Roy.

At the AGM, the Alumni Association recognized the dedication of many volunteers, including (left to right) Ruth Bredin, Doreen McCormick, Vince Merke, Johan Dick, and Irene Sanderson.

VOLUNTEERS RECOGNIZED AT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

At the Alumni Association Annual General meeting, the Council took the opportunity to acknowledge the work and dedication of some of its members. Special thanks were extended to **Vince Merke** (DCE '01), team lead for volunteers; **Chris Cottick** (B.Sc. '86), past president; and **Barbara Kelly** (BA '60, DCE '96), team lead for communications; and Council members **Perry Maza** (BA '85), **Ian Restall** (BA '79), and **Omar Siddiqui** (BA Hons. '99), all of whom will be leaving the Council this year. The Alumni Association also thanked **Ruth Bredin** (BA '45), **Doreen McCormick** (BA '41), **Johan Dick** and **Irene Sanderson** (BA '95) who have worked tirelessly trying to find "lost" grads.

The meeting also saw the election of new officers (see Page 15).

MAYOR SAM KATZ ADDRESSES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Winnipeg Mayor **Sam Katz** was the guest speaker at The University of Winnipeg Alumni Association's Annual General Meeting held June 13, 2005. In his address on The University of Winnipeg's role in the downtown's revitalization, Katz acknowledged the challenges facing the city, especially in the downtown area. He said, however, that The University of Winnipeg is an "important asset just waiting to be explored." An institution like The University of Winnipeg, "which has enjoyed such a unique place in our past," he continued, "will have an even more important role in the future of our city." In the plan to develop a pedestrian mall on Spence Street, for example, the University is working with the city to move forward with the project that will give "a new look, new energy, and new opportunities to The University of Winnipeg area." The Spence Street community pedestrian mall (launched August 8), Katz continued, could then be used as a template for other initiatives in the city.

Mayor Sam Katz spoke about "The Role of The University of Winnipeg in the Revitalization of Downtown" at the Alumni Association's Annual General Meeting.

NEW THIS YEAR: "SEARCH FOR LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE"

The Alumni Association is proud to present a new offering in the "Professors With a Passion" series. Join us for "Search for Life in the Universe," with Physics professors **Vesna Milosevic-Zdjelar** and **Don Campbell** on Wednesday, October 12, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 4M47. Participants will also have the opportunity to look through the University's telescope (atmospheric conditions permitting). To purchase your tickets, please contact the Alumni Office.

New Alumni Council President Michael Bayer (B.Sc. '90, BA '95) presented a degree frame to John Robertson (MDiv. '05) at the Faculty of Theology graduation dinner in the Spring.

ALUMNI COUNCIL ENSURES GRADS ARE "FRAMED"

New Alumni Council President **Michael Bayer** (B.Sc. '90, BA '95) presented a door prize to **John Robertson** (M.Div. '05) at the Faculty of Theology graduation dinner in the spring. This is the first time the Alumni Council has presented a frame to a lucky graduate from the Theology Department. The Alumni Council also had a draw for a door prize at the Education grad dinner and dance.

Alumni are on hand at all convocations to sell frames so graduates can display their degrees immediately. Frames are also available year-round at *Beyond Words*, the University's bookstore. Proceeds from the frame sales support scholarships and the activities of the Alumni Council.

UPCOMING EVENTS

REUNITE WITH FRIENDS

The United College **Class of 1950** will hold a reunion from September 21 to 23, 2005. For more information, contact **Darcy Duggan** at 204.786.9174 or **d.duggan@uwinnipeg.ca**

The **Class of 1935** will mark their 70th anniversary with a dinner on September 23, 2005. The **Class of 1955** will celebrate their golden anniversary with a weekend of reunion activities, September 23 and 24, 2005. For more information on the 1935 and 1955 reunions, contact **Lois Cherney** at 204.786.9134 or **l.cherney@uwinnipeg.ca**

ALUMNI TO GATHER IN HONG KONG

Alumni and friends are invited to join University President **Lloyd Axworthy** at an **alumni event in Hong Kong** on November 25, 2005. For details, contact **Lois Cherney** at 204.786.9134 or **l.cherney@uwinnipeg.ca**

BRING ALUMNI HOME IN 2006!

Are you interested in getting involved with **Homecoming 2006?** If you would like to help with this exciting new event, contact **Lois Cherney** at 204.786.9134 or **l.cherney@uwinnipeg.ca**

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ALUMNI PROGRAMS AND EVENTS, PLEASE CONTACT THE ALUMNI OFFICE:

email: alumni@uwinnipeg.ca **phone:** 204.786.9711 or Toll Free 1.888.829.7053 **web:** www.uwinnipeg.ca/alumni

TEXT: Tina Portman

NO BORDERS

First UWinnipeg Summer Institute Examines Impacts of Infectious Diseases

Lurking in the cells of infected chickens, waterfowl, and pigs is avian flu virus strain H5N1. If H5N1 mutates & jumps the human animal border—as viruses have in the past—it has the potential to ravage the world with a pandemic that could sicken 20 per cent of the global population in a few months. One quarter of those infected would likely die.

Last June, The University of Winnipeg, in collaboration with the University of Manitoba and the International Centre for Infectious Diseases, pioneered a teaching institute to explore infectious diseases and personalize the sterile phrase "those infected." In a world where disease skips over political borders with ease, "those infected" could be "us."

"We wanted to give this issue of infectious diseases a broader face in terms of looking at it not only from the biological or the medical point of view, but also very holistically," says **Glen Bergeron**, Director of the Institute for Health, Security and Human Potential at UWinnipeg's Global College. "So we looked at it from a sociological point of view, a socio-economic point of view, and a global point of view."

Over 20 local and international experts spoke at the Summer Institute on Infectious Diseases. Because infectious diseases concern everyone, the Institute was open not only to students from Manitoba universities, but also to professionals who work with infectious diseases and to community members.

Close to 50 participants learned the science behind how different infections spread from person to person, how our culture and economy help spread infections, and how we might control diseases.

"There was a nice mix of students, professionals and community people," says Bergeron. "It created a lot of interesting interaction."

UWinnipeg entomologist and West Nile virus expert **Rob Anderson** shared the latest research into West Nile virus. UWinnipeg chemistry professor **Michael Eze** focused on another insect-borne disease, malaria. Other experts spoke on SARS, prions (the cause of mad cow disease), hanta virus, avian flu, and HIV.

University President **Lloyd Axworthy** examined the need to think globally about disease, a message reinforced by keynote speaker **Michael Osterholm** of the Centre for Infectious Disease Research and Policy at the University of Minnesota. Osterholm explored the spectre of a global pandemic. Right now, avian flu virus H5N1 is the most likely precursor to a mutant virus that will challenge our global immunity and preparedness—or lack thereof.

By thinking globally and thinking beyond science in the fight against infectious diseases, the Institute opened doors between science, society, and economy, between researchers and community, and between nations.

With infectious diseases, says Bergeron, "There are no borders."

This year's Institute was so successful organizers are planning another Summer Institute on Infectious Diseases for next year.

HISTORICA TEACHERS' INSTITUTE

First People and Immigrants: the Making of Canada

TEXT: Ian Tizzard

While their students were in the swing of holidays, 37 high school teachers from around the country met at The University of Winnipeg to bring history to life at the Historica Teachers' Institute July 4 - 9, 2005, co-sponsored by The University of Winnipeg and the Toronto-based Historica Foundation. Participants heard stories, took historic tours, prepared group projects, and handled artifacts, all with the aim of looking for ways to engage their students with Canada's history.

The theme—*First People and Immigrants: the Making of Canada*—drew heavily on oral traditions and material culture to reveal the extensive interaction between Aboriginal peoples and immigrants that formed our nation.

"I think it's especially important to look at oral history because it's not always taken seriously," said **Margaret Carlyle** (BA Hons. '05), a recent UWinnipeg graduate who moderated some of the week's events. She rather sees oral traditions as a way to democratize history and make the stories of certain groups more accessible. "It's a way for groups to reclaim history," said Carlyle, who was awarded a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) MA scholarship to pursue graduate studies in History at McGill University this Fall.

"Where I'm teaching, the oral tradition is already very relevant," said **Charlene Sutton**, while sewing a small rawhide pouch with sinew, following a presentation on Aboriginal technology. Sutton, teaching Northern Studies in Arviat, Nunavut, knows there is a lot for her and other teachers to learn. "I don't think it's right for me, being from Newfoundland, to come up and tell them their history," said Sutton. "In developing curriculum, we've established an ongoing dialogue with the people who've lived there their whole lives."

Even teachers familiar with oral traditions were able to gain a deeper knowledge and understanding: "I've done a lot of research, but I wanted to learn about oral traditions from other groups besides Aboriginals," said **Robert Matthew**, principal teacher at a school on a First Nations reservation near Chase, BC.

Matthew especially liked hearing from **Myron Shatulsky**, who led the teachers around the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Winnipeg's North End. "Different groups focus on different themes and ideals," said Matthew, "but they all reaffirm our place in the Canadian mosaic."

The Institute's organizer, UWinnipeg History Chair **Nolan Reilly**, said he was hoping to show ways to make theory and concepts work through hands-on applications. Added to the mix were archaeologists, researchers, curators, archivists, and storytellers that were instructed to present something that could be taken away. "I asked them to think of ways of taking their research and making it more accessible," said Reilly. "Each segment was part of an overall vision of where we wanted to move," he added, looking forward to two more annual Historica Institutes planned for the University.

Meet the 2005 – 2006 Alumni Council

Get involved! Serve on the 12-member Alumni Council which meets regularly to make decisions on policy and programming. Each member serves a three-year term. In addition, three alumni are selected to serve on the University's Board of Regents. To learn more, please contact Lois Cherney at l.cherney@uwinnipeg.ca or 204.786.9134.

Past President – *Debra Radi '81, '85*

President – *Michael Bayer '90, '95*

Vice-President – *Jason Pusiewich '98*

Team Lead, Volunteers – *Frank Liebzeit '68*

Assistant Team Lead, Volunteers – *Sally Hatcher '96*

Team Lead, Events and Outreach – *Deanna England '98*

Assistant Team Lead, Events and Outreach – *Brent Barske '99*

Team Lead, Communications – *Joanne Struch '94*

Assistant Team Lead, Communications – *Sheila Dresen '57*

Members at Large – *Susan Rennie '02, Daniel Louer '91, Craig Huard '98*

Alumni Representatives to the Board of Regents – *Michael Bayer '90, '95, Brenda Prosken '96, Debra Radi '81, '85*

exceptional education

TEXT: Annette Elvers BA (Hons.) '93 **PHOTO:** grajewski.fotograph

The internationally renowned World Council for Gifted and Talented Children (WCGTC) has chosen The University of Winnipeg for its new home base, marking the first time its headquarters have been located outside the United States.

The WCGTC is a diverse organization networking the globe with an active membership of approximately 800 educators, scholars, researchers, parents, educational institutions, and others interested in giftedness from over 50 countries.

Dr. Klaus Urban, University of Hannover and World Council President, said UWinnipeg's background in gifted education and experience played an important role in its selection as host for the international network of educators dedicated to further worldwide development of gifted education.

"The University of Winnipeg has the ability to support the World Council's purpose and goals. The University's international approach—through its Global College—fits nicely into the activities of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children," Urban said.

"The World Council for Gifted and Talented Children is an incredible resource," said **Ken McCluskey**, UWinnipeg Associate Dean of Education. "It brings together the gifted global community of educators, scholars, researchers, parents, educational institutions, and others interested in the development of gifted and talented youth. The University of Winnipeg is honoured to be the new headquarters for the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children."

"This announcement today testifies to the international renown of The University of Winnipeg's Bachelor of Education Program," said **Lloyd Axworthy**, University President, "and the University's mission to develop global citizens. Having the World Council headquartered on our campus underscores the University's commitment to access, education research, and to gifted education and the preparation of gifted educators."

The World Council for Gifted and Talented Children began modestly as an idea of Henry Collis, a prominent British educator of the gifted. He envisioned a conference on gifted education, which would unite an international body of educators. The first meeting was held in London, England in 1975. In 1977, the organization was established as a representative worldwide association at the second world conference convened in San Francisco. A secretariat was established at Teachers College, Columbia University, New York in 1979. The headquarters were most recently located in Northridge, California.

The headquarters for the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children moved to The University of Winnipeg August 31, 2005.

"By obtaining the Headquarters, we are now positioned to support the mission of the World Council, and to share the work of our faculty, which involves talent development for "at-risk" children and youth, including Aboriginal young people," said McCluskey. "There is a growing body of literature that suggests that the talents of minority group, disadvantaged students are often never recognized, yet alone developed. The true "cost" of such talent delayed or denied is virtually impossible to discern. What is the cost of a symphony unwritten, a cure not discovered, a breakthrough not invented?

"In today's complex world, and in preparing for tomorrow's certainly more complex one, we can scarcely afford such waste of "talent capital" and human potential. Our role in administering the business of the World Council will allow us to have a major international impact and to make a positive difference in identifying and nurturing the talents of marginalized students across the globe."

THE NORTH WEST COMPANY:
Founding Donor to Wii Chii Waa Ka Nak

TEXT: Nadine Kampen BA '81 **PHOTO:** Ross Cornish

University of Winnipeg President Lloyd Axworthy and North West Company President Edward Kennedy.

The University of Winnipeg and its Foundation are pleased to announce the opening in September 2005 of the Wii Chii Waa Ka Nak Learning Centre in conjunction with a founding corporate donation of $100,000 from The North West Company.

Wii Chii Waa Ka Nak serves as a focal point for delivery of Aboriginal and inner city educational initiatives, programs, and services while helping to spark new collaborative initiatives among The University of Winnipeg, The Southeast Resource Development Council, and First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and inner city organizations.

"The North West Company gift helps create an opportunity for The University of Winnipeg to partner with the Aboriginal community to begin to address the educational needs of Winnipeg's urban Aboriginal population," says President **Lloyd Axworthy** (BA '61, LLD '98). "Within this Centre, the University can provide our students and our Aboriginal neighbours with the means and the resources, the facilities and the services, to allow full expression of their history, cultural inheritance, and personal aspirations."

"The North West Company's donation to The University of Winnipeg Campaign demonstrates corporate citizenship at its best, enabling our University and local community to deliver better programs and more effective initiatives for Aboriginal education," says **Susan Thompson** (Collegiate '67, BA '71) President and CEO of The University of Winnipeg Foundation.

Wii Chii Waa Ka Nak, supported by a $295,000 grant under the new tripartite Winnipeg Partnership Agreement (WPA) and Canada's Urban Aboriginal Strategy, serves University of Winnipeg students along with members of Winnipeg's fast-growing urban Aboriginal community.

"Fully 40 per cent of Winnipeg's Aboriginal residents live in the inner city," says **Larry Chartrand**, Director, Aboriginal Self-Governance Program. "Wii Chii Waa Ka Nak presents an unparalleled opportunity to introduce new and innovative educational programs and services for this important constituency."

Wii Chii Waa Ka Nak initiatives thus far include: a summer enrichment program for inner city children; a Community Learning Commons to facilitate computer-based learning, mentoring, and distance education for Aboriginal children and adults, helping to eliminate the "digital divide" with the creation of a wireless information corridor; an Urban Aboriginal Artifact Internship Program, to foster appreciation among youth of the Aboriginal community's rich cultural heritage; a proposed Discovery Centre; and programs funded from other sources, such as a new community-based Aboriginal Teacher Education Program and an Aboriginal Self-Governance program. Plans also include the opening of a Traditional Healing Centre encompassing restorative justice and combined with a health clinic and a National Indigenous Language Institute to teach, translate, and promote Aboriginal languages.

"The North West Company takes pride in supporting educational opportunities for Canada's Aboriginal people," says North West Company President **Edward Kennedy**. "As a significant employer in Canada's North and a company that serves many Aboriginal communities across the nation, we are pleased to become founding partners in this important initiative."

For over 300 years, The North West Company has been committed to providing food and everyday products and services to remote communities across northern Canada and Alaska. The North West Company is the leading retailer in northern Canada, where it employs over 5,500 people, and it is rapidly establishing a retailing presence in southern markets under the Giant Tiger banner. The North West Company is the largest employer of Aboriginal people in Canada outside of the Federal Government.

The Wii Chii Waa Ka Nak facility, located on Ellice Avenue opposite the University's Duckworth Centre, provides over 14,600 square feet of classroom, office, and meeting space for gatherings, workshops, and outreach.

Perfect Poise • Tara Bir

TEXT: Ian Tizzard **PHOTOS:** David Cooper

twhistle (Collegiate '89) with her cropped blond hair and funky tattoos, may not look like your typical ballerina. But her unmistakable grace and poise belie the external image and speak to her professional deportment as Principal Dancer at Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet. Poise is a word that quickly comes to mind when you meet Birtwhistle. So much so that it's a little intimidating—until you ask her about the Japanese peony tattoo that stretches across her lower back and down one leg. "It really came down to what the horse could be covered up with, so it really signifies nothing except for me being stupid at one time in my life," she says, letting loose with an endearing laugh that builds to a raucous chuckle.

Birtwhistle is not an ethereal artist, but a pragmatic one. "I don't like dancing just for the sake of dancing, when it's just about technique. I like to be a character," she says. On stage, her immediate goal is to express emotion through movement, to make an audience feel something. "I like the story ballets best, like Romeo and Juliet. Since it was a play first, you can research the words of what Juliet says and translate it into dance. I often, when I'm dancing, have words or dialogue going through my head."

Firmly grounded in the technique of the classics, Birtwhistle welcomes new additions to the traditional world of ballet, admitting to a preference for what people call contemporary ballet. She remembers instant standing ovations with last year's hit, *Cinderella*, as an example of the way things are going. Some purists scoffed, but people loved it and Birtwhistle loved playing a vampy version of the Wicked Stepmother. "People still like the traditional things," says Birtwhistle, "but it's like Shakespeare: it needs to be done because it's historically significant, but we don't have the audience base to do it all the time."

Born in Sherwood Park, Alberta, Birtwhistle, 33, has already been set on her goals for a long time. She began tap and jazz dance classes at age three. At 10, she began ballet classes, and by the age of 16, she had decided she would be a professional dancer, which meant hours of daily training beginning immediately and not ending until her career is over.

She attended The University of Winnipeg Collegiate for Grades 11 and 12, after moving to Winnipeg in 1986 for full-time dance training with the Professional Division of Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet School. Night classes and spring session courses, along with the flexibility of the regular schedule, meant she could work academics around her career aspirations. "There are dancers who don't get a high school education, because it's too difficult when you have to start training at such a young age, dancing every morning and going to school in the afternoon," says Birtwhistle. "Certainly, The Collegiate gave me the opportunity to become a ballet dancer."

And while her most memorable student moments are of dance classes, Birtwhistle is occasionally reminded of her time at The Collegiate when she hears from **Phyllis Webster**, her former English teacher. "I think Mrs. Webster has been keeping track of my career," says Birtwhistle. "When I did one of my first leading roles, she came backstage after, and when I got engaged, she sent me a card. She must keep her eye out, which is kind of neat."

After nurturing students through high school, Webster says she enjoys the chance to continue seeing dreams fulfilled. "I write them each a card at the end of the year inviting them to keep in touch."

Webster remembers Birtwhistle sitting in the first class she ever taught at The Collegiate. "Tara's one of my all-time favourites," says Webster, describing Birtwhistle as a driven student who never let her passion for dance overcome her. "This was something deep inside her, but she never used her ballet training as an excuse to not do her homework. She wrote beautifully and sensibly and was a particularly fine student."

Birtwhistle appreciates the many accolades she gets, but ultimately she dances for one person. "If the choreographer is out there, you have to live up to his or her expectations, and your director, and the audience, but ultimately it's a challenge within yourself," says Birtwhistle.

"What I try to achieve is being in a zone, where I'm dancing and I don't even notice the audience, and I have an almost out-of-body experience, when everything just sort of happens. I've been dancing in this company for fifteen years and it's happened three times." Even when the dance isn't a transcendent experience, Birtwhistle says that being onstage performing or in studio training always produces a high. "On a daily basis, even when you're just rehearsing, you get that adrenaline when you try something new," she says. "It's like when athletes get a high from running—we're addicted to it. I am, anyways."

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD WINNER

RAYMOND L. MCFEETORS
(COLLEGIATE '65, BA '68)

TEXT: Ilana Simon BA '84 **PHOTO:** Jim Worniuk

Ask **Raymond McFeetors** (Collegiate '65, BA '68) what it's like heading up the mammoth Great-West Life Assurance Company and his unassuming nature shines through.

"I'm just an employee like everyone else," McFeetors, President and CEO of Great-West Life, London Life, and Canada Life responds matter-of-factly. "Everyone has an important role to play. Somebody's got to be company president. Now it's my turn."

Since 1992, McFeetors has been at the helm of one of Canada's leading life and health insurers. He has overseen the acquisitions of London Life in 1997 and Canada Life in 2003; the expansion into the wealth management sector; and, the naming of Great-West as one of Canada's Top 100 Employers (The Guide to Canada's Best Places to Work, 2004). He travels regularly to company offices internationally in England, Ireland, and Germany as well as domestic sites in Toronto, Montréal, and London, Ontario.

Just after graduating in 1968 from UWinnipeg with his BA in Economics, McFeetors began his career at Great-West Life as a trainee in the Group Division—never imagining that he'd one day become President. During his time at University, McFeetors also explored theatre, political science, and physics—not to mention pranks and pep rallies.

McFeetors fondly recounts Riddell Hall Cafeteria dances with Chad Allan and The Guess Who, raiding the girls' residence in Sparling Hall (and facing the inevitable reciprocal raid!), banana cannons, gun powder concoctions aimed at snow sculptures on Wesley Hall lawn, and (sshhhh...!) hiding a still in the ceiling of Convocation Hall.

"Your university years are the best years of your life," he says. "There's no question that the training I got at The University of Winnipeg has stayed with me—my ability to speak in public came out of my experience in Theatre and emceeing comedy shows in Convocation Hall."

McFeetors also picked up valuable habits during his post-secondary education. "University teaches a disciplined approach to problems or issues. It provides conditioning and trains you and allows you to mature."

Prior to entering The Collegiate and University of Winnipeg, McFeetors spent three years in the Canadian Air Force as an Airborne Communications Technician. While he decided against continuing his career in the military, McFeetors' passion for planes never waned—he is a licensed pilot and enjoys flying his Cessna 182.

McFeetors is involved broadly in community causes and business affairs including serving as a member on the boards of CancerCare Manitoba, Investors Group Inc., MTS, Shaw Festival, and University of Western Ontario.

As Honorary Colonel for the Royal Winnipeg Rifles, McFeetors and his wife Lynn-Anne were invited to the recent Royal wedding of Prince Charles and Camilla Parker-Bowles where McFeetors served as a member of the honour guard.

"Ray is an excellent example of home-grown success. He was born in Manitoba, went to school here, and rose up to head one of the largest insurance companies in Canada—headquartered in Winnipeg," says **Michael Bayer** (B.Sc. '90, BA '95), President of The University of Winnipeg Alumni Association. "Indeed, Ray embodies what The University of Winnipeg is all about through his community spirit, his success, and his everlasting enthusiasm for his alma mater."

At Fall Convocation October 16, 2005, McFeetors will receive The University of Winnipeg's Distinguished Alumni Award, honouring his great achievements in the business world and at the community level.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD WINNER

SHIRLEY RENDER (BA '64)

TEXT: Annette Elvers BA (Hons.) '93 **PHOTO:** File

On **Shirley Render's** first solo flight as a new pilot, the unthinkable happened: engine failure.

"Most pilots go through an entire career without losing an engine," recalls Render. "It happened to me my first time out." Keeping her wits about her, every lesson she ever learned about flying flowed from her brain to her hands and feet. She brought the plane to safety, unharmed. "I knew that if I could live through that, I could handle anything."

That cool confidence has served Renders well in careers as diverse as politician, cabinet minister, author of two groundbreaking books (with a third underway), social worker, international public speaker, and one of the few women in the world who has flown an F-18—one of the world's top military aircraft.

Render is well-known as a groundbreaker, challenging assumptions and taking on roles that were traditionally male territory. As one of the few aviation historians in Canada, she was the only woman on many projects in the aviation industry. For example: Render was the only woman member of the Royal Canadian Mint Panel; the only woman member of the International Civil Aviation Organization's 50th Anniversary Committee and the only woman Patron of the Canadian Bush Plane Heritage Centre in Ontario.

"I've never been afraid to be different," says Render, shrugging off any suggestion of limitations. "If you work hard and believe in yourself you can do anything." But she also underscores the part about effort—Render admits that success didn't come easy. "I wasn't a brilliant person. Some of my friends, I think they would just look at a textbook and they would sop up the information," says Render, a member of The University of Winnipeg Class of 1964. "I had to think about things and work hard at it."

Though she graduated more than 40 years ago, the University still holds a special place in her thoughts. "The University was small, you knew the professors well, and they knew you," recounts Render. "I loved every minute of it!" She lists such favourites as **Dr. Victor Leathers** and **Dr. John Clake**, adding that **Dr. Jack Dixon** was a supporter of hers until long after graduation, helping her prepare for entry into graduate school. "I never had any compunction about going back to the University at any time later, either to ask for help or as a volunteer or speaker."

Throughout her life, Render has won many awards recognizing her skill as a pilot, her academic prowess, and her community service. Render received the James Gray Medal in History upon receiving her master's degree, the Governor General's Commemorative Medal for recognition of her public service in her community as a volunteer and Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA), and numerous awards for her work in preserving and promoting Canada's aviation heritage, such as the YM-YWCA Woman of Distinction Award and the International NW Aviation Council President's Award.

At Spring Convocation on June 6, 2005, Render was presented with The University of Winnipeg's Distinguished Alumni Award. This honour, bestowed upon an alumnus/a at Convocation each Fall and Spring, is awarded to a graduate of exceptional achievement, and who has demonstrated loyal and dedicated service to the community or the University.

CLASS ACTS

COMPILED BY: Betsy Van der Graaf

1940s

'47 The Collegiate Herbert Halprin is the owner of Allied Coin Machines in Winnipeg, MB.

'48 BA Kenneth Moffatt writes that he volunteers for Habitat for Humanity, United Church activities, and enjoys beautiful Thunder Bay, ON scenery.

Graduates from United College's Class of 1945 reunited with old friends May 13 – 15, 2005.

1950s

'55 BA Evans Premachuk writes that he has retired from his law practice, and after having been active in real estate, he is enjoying life in Kelowna, BC.

1960s

'61 BA Rod Peppler was inducted into the 2005 Manitoba Basketball Hall of Fame in recognition of his years recruiting, training, and mentoring young referees with the Manitoba Basketball Officials' Association.

'63 BA, '60 The Collegiate T. Richard Brooke is a Supreme Court Justice in Kelowna, BC.

'65 The Collegiate Sherrill Hershberg was the recipient of the 2005 Manitoba Woman Entrepreneur of the Year Award in the Building Business category, sponsored by the Women's Enterprise Centre of Manitoba.

'66 BA (Hons.), '60 The Collegiate Terrence Grywinski owns Florida business Advanced CranioSacral Therapy.

'66 BA Donald John Roberts was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. His latest book, *The Modern Firm: Organizational Design for Performance and Growth* (Oxford University Press, 2004) was selected as the best business book of the year by *The Economist* magazine.

'67 BA Allan Alcock recently retired from over 36 years with provincial and federal corrections agencies. As a registered social worker, Alcock continues to have a small private practice in counselling and delivers workshops on various topics.

'67 B.Sc. James Daun was awarded the American Oil Chemists' Society (AOCS) Fellow Award. The Fellowship recognizes his achievements in science and his participation in the AOCS as president and longtime member. Daun also received the AOCS Analytical Division's 2005 H.R. Dutton Award for his work in area of analysis.

'67 BA Dorothy (Lutack) Orebanjo is a rehabilitation counsellor at the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) in Winnipeg, MB.

'69 BA Grant McLean was awarded the 2004 Order of Military Merit by Her Excellency Adrienne Clarkson, Governor General of Canada.

1970s

'70 BA (Hons.) Alan Listiak is the coordinator of sex-offender program certification for the Minnesota Department of Corrections. Listiak describes his position as promulgating and enforcing of administrative law to regulate the quality of sex offender treatment programs in the state.

'70 BA Gordon Willson is a financial advisor with Laurentian Financial Services in Winnipeg, MB. Willson is treasurer of the Kiwanis Club of Fort Garry and a board member of Rupertsland Caregiver Services.

'71 BA (Hons.) Bernard Freeman and '71 BA (Hons.) Cheryl (Richardson) Freeman are both retired from teaching. Bernard is studying advanced photography at Red River College and Cheryl is working towards a Fine Arts degree at the University of Manitoba.

'71 BA (Hons.), '68 The Collegiate Ian R. Seymour was elected secretary-treasurer of the 2005-06 Council of The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Manitoba.

'71 BA Richard A.R. Trager is an inspector with the Canadian Grain Commission in Saskatchewan.

'72 BA Walter Kukurudz retired in 1997, following 39 years in the education profession, including 17 years as principal of Pinawa Secondary School, and four years as principal at Deep River Science Academy in Pinawa, MB.

'72 LLD Alfred Monnin was awarded the 2005 Distinguished Service Award by the Manitoba Bar Association in recognition of his service and dedication to the community, and his demonstrated commitment to the law profession.

'74 BA Richard Kunzelman is celebrating the 25th anniversary of his ordination with the worshipping community at the Eastern Star Chalet in Winnipeg, MB.

'77 BA Jim Derksen was appointed to the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority's Board of Directors.

'78 BA Tracy Nelson was appointed Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Company's Vice President of Human Resources.

'79 BA (Hons.) Marianne Farag is employed with Manitoba's Office of the Auditor General as Principal, Governance Services.

'79 BA Patti Grayson was nominated for the John Hirsch Award for Most Promising Manitoba Writer, and the Eileen McTavish Sykes Award for Best First Book by a Manitoba Author for her book, *Core Samples.*

'79 BA Lindor Reynolds was the recipient of the prestigious Will Rogers Humanitarian Award, presented in Texas at the National Society of Newspaper Columnists annual conference. Reynolds is the first Canadian journalist to receive the honour, recognizing her for her efforts in civic journalism and her charitable works.

'79 BA Heather Spence is a psychiatric nurse with the Deer Lodge Centre in Winnipeg, MB.

1980s

'80 BA Carol Finlay is currently attending The University of Winnipeg's Division of Continuing Education as a full-time student in the Arts

and Cultural Management Certificate and Management Certificate programs. Finlay is also pursuing an Office 2003 Certificate.

'80 BA John Longhurst was appointed Director of Communications and Marketing for the Canadian Mennonite University in Winnipeg, MB.

'80 BA Glen Radewich is Global Research Services Senior Research Manager at Ipsos-Reid in Winnipeg, MB.

'81 BA Sandra (Goerz) Dyck is an investment advisor with RBC Dominion Securities in White Rock, BC. Sandra and her husband have two children in university.

'81 BA (Hons.) Richard Shore is in private practice as a clinical psychologist in Winnipeg, MB.

'81 BA Gail Wylie is the Executive Director of Healthy Start for Mom and Me, a healthy baby program. Wylie was recently appointed to the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority's Board of Directors.

'83 BA Ken Starkell is employed by Palliser Furniture in technology support.

'84 BA Brian Drader was nominated for the $100,000 Siminovitch Prize recognizing playwrights who have made a significant contribution to Canadian theatre.

'84 B.Sc., '01 DCE Brett Ferguson was appointed Vice President and Manager of Stevenson Advisors Ltd. in Winnipeg, MB.

'85 B.Ed. Maria McMurray is a guidance counsellor at Sisler High School in Winnipeg, MB. McMurray has two daughters who keep her busy.

'85 BA Matthew Wong lives in Hong Kong where he is Tak Sun Secondary School's Director of Academic Formation.

'86 BA, '83 The Collegiate Loretta Meade joined the law firm of Myers Weinberg where she will focus on serving First Nations in various fields. Meade will also continue to work in-house for the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.

'87 BA Karen Ackerman is a respiratory therapist at the Health Sciences Centre (Children's Hospital) in Winnipeg, MB, where she is a part of Manitoba's Neonatal Transport Team. Ackerman is married and has two sons, aged 10 and 6.

'87 BA Jack Slessor is employed with the government of Manitoba in community development. He is still performing as the Charlie Chaplin "look-alike" that he began while studying at The University of Winnipeg. Slessor has performed in Canada, the United States, and China.

'88 BA (Hons.) Tara Orchard is Wilfrid Laurier University's Coordinator of Career Advising.

'88 BA, '67 The Collegiate Alison Preston was nominated for the McNally Robinson Book of the Year Award for her novel, *Cherry Bites,* and the Carol Shields Winnipeg Book Award. The novel was also nominated for the Mary Scorer Award for Best Book by a Manitoba Publisher (Signature Editions).

'88 BA Mendy Wolchock is Transcona Jaycees Daycare's preschool supervisor in Winnipeg, MB. Wolchock previously spent 15 years working at a crisis shelter workplace in downtown Winnipeg.

'89 MST Dennis Butcher is the executive director of L'Arche Winnipeg, provider of group homes for persons with developmental disabilities.

'89 BA 4-yr. Amos Chan is the Manager of Personal Lending at the Commonwealth Bank of Australia in Sydney, Australia.

'89 BA Helder Serpa is a safety technician with the City of Winnipeg.

1990s

'90 The Collegiate Renee Salsiccioli is a member of the artistic staff at the Royal Winnipeg Ballet.

'91 BA Darel Hominuk is the client services resource coordinator and program planner for the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada, Manitoba Division.

'91 BA (Hons.) Valerie Shantz was appointed program manager of the Manitoba Arts Council in Winnipeg, MB.

'92 BA Sharman (Marcyniuk) Hudson is employed as a cashier at Mandi Mart in Peguis, Manitoba. Hudson and her husband have a florist shop that they are hoping to expand. Hudson is currently taking a florist/floral design correspondence course through Stratford Career Institute.

'92 The Collegiate Mark Oleson is a senior engineer with Adidas International. Oleson, who has been employed with Adidas for five years, is a co-inventor of the adidas_1, described as the first "intelligent shoe."

'92 B.Sc., '93 BA Tanya Peckmann has a tenure-track professorial position at Saint Mary's University in Nova Scotia and is the forensic anthropologist for Nova Scotia. This past summer Peckmann was involved in forensic anthropology projects in South Africa.

'93 BA (Hons.) Ardith Boxall is associate artistic director at Theatre Projects Manitoba, a professional theatre company that produces works by Manitoba playwrights. She performed at Manitoba Theatre Centre's Tremblay Fest in *Albertine in Five Times* by Michel Tremblay. Boxall lives in Winnipeg with her partner Gordon Tanner and son Benjamin.

'93 B.Sc. (4-yr.) Dirk Schmid is a data analyst and environmental microbiologist with North/South Consultants Inc. in Winnipeg, MB, where he is currently implementing an environment information system for the lower Nelson River system in northern Manitoba.

UWinnipeg's Newest Legal Eagles

A number of University of Winnipeg graduates were called to the bar this year and are now practicing with the following Winnipeg law firms:

'86 BA, '83 The Collegiate Loretta Meade - Myers Weinberg, LLP
'92 BA (Hons.) Karin R. Linnebach - Myers Weinberg, LLP
'98 BA Kerry-Krista (KK) N. Pinkowski - Aikins, MacAulay & Thorvaldson, LLP
'00 BA Jason Kendall - Tapper Cuddy, LLP
'00 B.Sc. Kurtis I. Bond - Pitblado, LLP
'00 BA (Hons.) Maria C. Reimer - Aikins, MacAulay & Thorvaldson, LLP
'00 BA Erin Romeo - D'Arcy and Deacon, LLP
'01 B.Sc. Rennie Herscovitch - Taylor McCaffrey, LLP

'94 BA Garth Buchholz is the City of Winnipeg's corporate web manager and member of The Global College Advisory Board.

'94 B.Sc. (4-yr.) Gary Geswein is employed in the aggregates industry in eastern Manitoba.

'94 BA Hernan Gutierrez is an accountant with Crown Utilities Ltd. in Winnipeg, MB.

'94 B.Ed. Timmy (Katyal) Sharma is a teacher in the Winnipeg School Division.

'94 B.Sc. Kelly-Ann (Janz) Zirk is a laboratory technician at the Lord Selkirk Regional Comprehensive Secondary School. Zirk is married and has three sons. She tries to stay active with ringette, baseball, golf, and volleyball.

'95 BA Miranda Lin is environmental manager at Sino-Wood Partners in Hong Kong.

'95 DCE Patricia (Bourque) Sawicki, a stay-at-home mom with three daughters under age 4, is working on her La Leche League leader accreditation.

'95 BA, '91 The Collegiate Edward Tanner is executive director of the Manitoba Urban Native Housing Association, Inc., and is the Manitoba representative for the National Aboriginal Housing Association. Tanner is currently pursuing a degree in social work at the University of Manitoba.

'95 B.Sc., '92 The Collegiate Vance Woodward is an attorney in California with Morison-Knox Holden and Prough, LLP.

'96 BA (Hons.) John Callander co-wrote *///Fated,* a feature film that was an official selection of the 2004 Whistler, Vancouver, Calgary, and Toronto International Film Festivals, and the 2005 Slamdance, Durango, and Shanghai International Film Festivals.

'96 BA Patrick Hamilton was appointed president of the Stevenson Real Estate Group where he will oversee all of Stevenson's operations.

'96 BA, '02 MPA Eric Turner is the Manager of Communications and Customer Service at the City of Winnipeg Property Assessment Department.

'98 BA, '00 B. Ed. Nathan Boulanger is a teacher in the Hanover School Division in Steinbach, MB.

'98 BA Michelle Desjarlais is a Financial Officer Trainer with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) in the Northwest Territories. Currently Desjarlais trains a team of 30 in the financial system and processes of INAC. She is celebrating eight years as a public servant of Canada.

'98 BA (Hons.) Sandra Wiebe was the recipient of the International Neuropsychological Society's Nelson Butters Award, given annually to recognize high-quality post-doctoral research. Wiebe's work focuses on understanding how children develop the thinking skills that help them solve problems and reach their goals. Wiebe also won a fellowship to attend the John Merck Fund Summer Institute on the Biology of Developmental Disabilities, which was held in July at Princeton University.

'99 BA Troy Reashore is a behavioural management treatment worker at the St. Amant Centre Inc. in Winnipeg, MB and is part of the clinical team working to improve the lives of those with multiple disabilities.

2000s

'00 BA Leslie S. Gott is accounts payable clerk at Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) in Winnipeg, MB.

'00 BA Julia (Doyle) Prawdzik works at the Royal Bank of Canada in personal financial services. She is currently working on an MBA at the University of Phoenix.

'01 BA Leanne Howard is the assistant for the annual Women of Distinction event and payroll clerk at the West Winnipeg YMCA-YWCA.

'01 B.Sc. (Hons.) Michael Lizardo graduated from the University of Manitoba with a master's degree in Pathology. He is currently working on a doctorate in medical biophysics and cancer research at the University of Western Ontario.

'01 DCE Richard Price is a claims supervisor at Manitoba Public Insurance in Winnipeg, MB.

'02 BA Sarah Amyot, 2004/5 University of Winnipeg Students' Association (UWSA) President, is now General Coordinator for the UWSA.

'02 BA Carmela Castellano is a sign language interpreter and works in legal, mental health, and cross-cultural settings. She uses her skills from Conflict Resolution Studies as a volunteer caseworker with the Winnipeg Police Victim Service section.

'02 BA (Hons.) Cheryl Dizon-Reynante is an intake worker/clinical assistant with the employee assistance centre at Manitoba Blue Cross. She is presently pursuing a master's in education at the University of Manitoba.

'02 BA (4-yr.) Christa Jacobucci is currently completing a master's degree in city planning at the University of Manitoba.

'02 BA Natasha Pearen is pursuing a M.Div. at the Atlantic School of Theology, in Halifax, NS. Pearen will be interning at a United Church in North Bay, ON this winter.

'02 BA, '04 B.Ed. Charlene Unger was married to Jake Sacher this year and teaches in the Louis Riel School Division in Winnipeg, MB.

'03 B.Sc. Leah Bannister has recently returned from overseas humanitarian placements in Costa Rica and Panama. Bannister is an immigration consultant and is employed with Employment Projects of Winnipeg. She extends her thanks to The University of Winnipeg and its students' association for preparing her for the real world!

'03 DCE Patricia Dodd is an educational assistant with the Louis Riel School Division in Winnipeg, MB.

'03 B.Sc. (Hons.) Daniel Sean Fitzpatrick is a PhD student at the University of Toronto.

'03 BA Terra Noble is the Deputy Director of the Canadian American Business Council and policy analyst at McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP, Washington DC in the government relations department for their Canadian practice. Noble completed a master's degree at the University of Toronto where she was a Fellow at Massey College. She plans to study law at McGill University.

'04 B.Sc. Jessica Burtnick is a client service representative at the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. Burtnick recently returned from a five-month trip involving missionary work in West Bengal, India.

'04 B.Sc. Boris Demchenko is senior HPLC Support Analyst at Vita Health Products in Winnipeg, MB.

'04 DCE Darko Lukic is a supervisor with Cangene Corporation in Winnipeg, MB.

'04 BA Kim (Paquette) McConnell is a teacher assistant with the Winnipeg School Division. McConnell is a volunteer with St. John's Youth and Justice, and Winnipeg Police Victim Services. She has a facilitator certificate from Community Justice Forum.

'04 BA, '90 The Collegiate Chandra Mayor received the Carol Shields Winnipeg Book Award for her novel, *Cherry.*

'04 BA (4-yr.) Catherine White is a master's student at the University of Cape Town in South Africa. White has been volunteering in Nepal where she trekked to the Everest Base Camp. She is a student primarily, but she volunteers with a children's health education program and a wetlands rehabilitation project.

'05 BA (Hons.) Darlyne Bautista is working as an ESL teacher in South Korea.

'05 B.Sc. (4-yr.) Erika Bock began Medical School this Fall at the University of Manitoba.

'05 BA (Hons.) Margaret Carlyle is pursuing graduate studies at McGill University in Montreal, QC focussing on the French Resistance Movement.

'05 BA (Hons.) Michelle Church is pursuing graduate studies in Environmental Studies at the University of Victoria.

'05 BA (4-yr.) Emina Cingel volunteers with the Red Cross, Refugees in Exile program at Sisler High, War Affected Children, and would like to work abroad as a humanitarian worker with CIDA or another NGO.

'05 BA (4-yr.) Ekaterina Kalinichenko works as a translator for the Board of Translators for visiting Russian delegations and is currently studying French at College St. Boniface.

'05 B.Sc. (Hons.) Laryssa Kurjewicz began graduate studies in medical biophysics at Western University in London, ON this Fall. This past summer she conducted research at the National Research Council's Institute for Biodiagnostics (IBD.)

'05 B.Sc., '05 BA (Hons.) Kelly Malcolmson is pursuing a PhD in behavioural neuroscience at the University of Waterloo.

'05 B.Sc. (Hons.) Tim McDowell is studying medicine at the University of Manitoba.

'05 BA (Hons.) Jeremy James Kegan McFadden is pursuing a master's degree in Art History with the focus on critical and curatorial studies at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, BC.

'05 BA (Hons.) Victoria McMahon graduated with her third degree from The University of Winnipeg in June 2005. She previously earned a BA in English and a Bachelor of Education. Victoria, a mother of a 13-year-old and a two-year-old, started her MA this past summer in Shakespearean studies at Stratford-Upon-Avon in England through the University of Birmingham.

'05 BA (4-yr.) Muad Oudeh explored solutions to the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians during his undergraduate studies. Upon returning home to Haifa, Israel, Oudeh began working with organizations that promote peace education so that he can play a part in influencing the next generation of Palestinians, breaking the cycle of violence.

'05 BA (Hons.) Jamie Paris is the first member of his family to receive a University degree, and he accomplished this as a student with dyslexia. Paris said he enjoyed a supportive community at The University of Winnipeg and wants to let others with learning disabilities know that it is not impossible for them to earn university degrees. Paris currently works with mentally challenged individuals and is hoping to go on to graduate school with a focus on children's literature.

'05 BA (4-yr.), '98 The Collegiate Jill Stockwell ran the University racquetball program during her studies. This past summer, Stockwell worked as a camp director at a children's camp. She would like to do graduate work in women's studies.

'05 BA (Hons.) Paul Willetts began graduate school in Political Science at the University of Calgary in Calgary, AB this Fall.

In Memory of Dr. Robert Lewis McCormack

On Saturday, May 28, 2005, retired University of Winnipeg history professor Robert **Lewis McCormack** passed away.

McCormack was born in Montreal, Quebec. He was a man of many talents and interests: a Sabre Jet fighter pilot, mach buster, pianist, squash player, stamp collector, as well as a loving husband, proud father, devoted grandfather, and loyal friend.

McCormack served with the RCAF in the 1950s in Germany. He later flew with Air Canada and later with Nigeria Airlines. He attended The University of Winnipeg, graduating with a BA (Hons.) '68 and then Dalhousie University, from which he received a PhD in African History. He returned to The University of Winnipeg as Professor of History, retiring in 2003.

Alumni, colleagues, and friends who wish to remember their colleague and friend with a gift may make a donation to The University of Winnipeg Scholarship Fund, or to CancerCare Manitoba. To donate to the University, please forward your gift to "The University of Winnipeg Foundation." For more information, please call 204.786.9013 or visit www.uwinnipegfoundation.ca

ALUMNI AUTHORS

COMPILED BY: Paula Denbow and Ilana Simon '84

THE TIME IN BETWEEN

David Bergen (B.Ed. '85)

In search of love, absolution, or forgiveness, Charles Boatman leaves B.C. and returns mysteriously to the country where he fought 28 years earlier as a young, reluctant soldier. But his new encounters seem irreconcilable with his memories.

When their father disappears, Ada and her brother, Jon, travel to Danang, Vietnam, to find him. Their quest takes them into the heart of a world that is at once incomprehensible, impassive, and beautiful. Chasing her father's shadow for weeks, following slim leads, Ada feels increasingly hopeless. Yet while Jon slips into the urban nightlife to avoid what he most fears, Ada soon grows closer than ever to her missing father—and strong enough to forgive him and to bear the truth of his long-kept secret.

David Bergen is the author of three highly acclaimed novels: *A Year of Lesser*, a New York Times Notable Book; *See the Child*; and, most recently, *The Case of Lena S.*, winner of the Carol Shields Winnipeg Book Award and a finalist for the Governor General's Award for Fiction.

BREAKOUT

Brian Drader, editor (BA '84)

In this anthology of plays by young emerging playwrights—including **Ginny Collins** and **Rose Condo** (BA Hons. '00)—five exciting new voices tackle themes of forgiveness, teen suicide, self-image, cultural assimilation, and rum running on the prairies. *The Good Daughter*, by Collins, dives deep into the delicious genre of black comedy, exposing a highly dysfunctional family of three women running rum on the prairies. Condo's *pyg* tells the funny and touching story of one woman's struggle with loneliness and the relentlessly impossible ideals our culture's media imposes on us.

Breakout captures the angst, humour, and heart of a generation of playwrights grappling with that precipice between the teen years and adulthood.

ASTHMATICA

Jon Paul Fiorentino (Associate Alumnus '99)

Asthmatica is the first collection of comedic fiction from critically-acclaimed poet **Jon Paul Fiorentino**. The stories within are edgy, eccentric, and often hilarious: a young man finds true love in a household appliance; an angst-ridden asthmatic makes an urgent plea to be your alpha male; and two juvenile delinquents stalk the milkman.

Fiorentino's previous books include *Hello Serotonin* and *Career Suicide!: Contemporary Literary Humour*. He lives in Montreal where he is Managing Editor at *Matrix* magazine.

THE LINNET BIRD

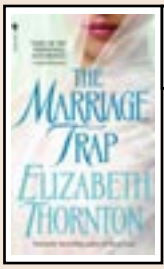
Linda Holeman (BA '72)

India, 1839: Linny Gow, a respectable young wife and mother, settles down to write her life story. To outside appearances Linny is the perfect British wife: beautiful, gracious, subservient. But appearances can be very deceptive…

Born into direst poverty in Liverpool, Linny escapes the life of prostitution her stepfather has forced her into, transforms herself into a young lady, and flees to India, where the British Raj is in its infancy. There she will find heartache and suffering, but also an understanding of what love can mean and—perhaps most precious of all—freedom.

But how did Linny achieve all this? And what has she sacrificed along the way? Most importantly, is this the end of Linny's journey, or is her story not yet over?

Linda Holeman's works have received numerous honours and international recognition. For young adults she has written a collection of stories entitled *Saying Good-bye*. Her novels include *Mercy's Bird*, *Raspberry House Blues*, and *Search of the Moon King's Daughter*. She has also written a children's picture book and two collections of short stories for adults.



THE MARRIAGE TRAP

Elizabeth Thornton (BA '81)

Well-known for her historical romances, **Elizabeth Thornton** tells a story of friendship, love, adventure, and excitement in one of her newest novels, *The Marriage Trap*. Jack Rigg, Brant Hamilton, and Ash Denison have been close friends since their schooldays. Though their paths diverged after they left university, they continued to keep in touch with each other. Jack and Ash served for a time in the Spanish Campaign. Brant, however, stayed at home to rebuild the family fortunes after his father went bankrupt. He is the only one who is married, but, just like his friends, he is cynical about women and life in general.

The year is 1816, just six months after the battle of Waterloo. These jaded friends have come to Paris to celebrate the New Year. Little do they know that their worlds are about to be turned upside down by three adventurous women who are waiting in the wings.

Thornton is a best-selling author who has published 22 novels. She has received numerous awards for her work, including the Romantic Times Trophy Award for the Best New Historical Regency Author.

SWEET TALKING

Ron Romanowski (BA '80)

Ron Romanowski is a Winnipeg poet with a penchant for place—specifically the North End of Winnipeg.

In *Sweet Talking*, Romanowski creates poetry from the experiences of his native North End that is at times earthily sensual, at times humorous, and at times deftly perceptive.

Sweet Talking is Romanowki's first book of poetry. His exuberant lyrics seem to leap from the page, building sustained images that instill his poems with a formidable verbal music.

Romanowski's poetry has been published in *CV2*, *Zygote* and anthologies including *Under the Prairie Sky*, *No Choice but to Trust*, *The Six-Pack from Heaven* and *Witness*.

IN MEMORIAM

COMPILED BY: Betsy Van der Graaf

The University of Winnipeg offers its condolences to the families of the following alumni and friends who have recently passed away. To forever mark their place in the history of the University, The University of Winnipeg Alumni Association is proud to place a bookplate in a select volume in the University Library in memory of each alumnus/alumna.

'30 BA Dora Howat on February 21, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'34 BA Sylvia (Price) Lawson

'35 BA Mildred (Serkin, Davis) Fishman in October, 2004

'35 Assoc. Alumnus Jacob Isaac on January 5, 2003 at Winnipeg, MB

'35 BA Helen (Heaslip) Robertson in 1999

'35 BA Ethel "Billie" (MacGachen) Truman

'36 BA Helen Sinclair in February, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'38 The Collegiate Charles E.E. (Chuck) Leitkie on April 5, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'38 BA Helen (Grant) Reynolds on March 21, 2005 at Waterloo, ON

'39 The Collegiate Thomas Kovnats on February 10, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'39 BA Jean Irene Lavender on February 23, 2005 at Lindsay, ON

'40 The Collegiate Gordon A. McKinnon on June 2, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'46 The Collegiate John Ferguson on June 21, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'46 BA Douglas W. Hilland, QC on January 22, 2005 at Canmore, AB

'46 BA '37 The Collegiate Duncan A. McKenzie in 2005, at Winnipeg, MB

'46 BA Margaret (Robinson) McKinnon on March 3, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'47 BA W. Robert (Bob) Gordon on March 16, 2001 at Winnipeg, MB

'48 Assoc. Alumnus Clifford Clare Baskerville on June 2, 2005 at Dominion City, MB

'48 BA Ann (Belcher) Adam on May 19, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'54 BA Diane Mary (Johnson) Dowling on April 29, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'55 The Collegiate Patricia Ann Shanski on May 30, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'57 BA, '54 Collegiate, '60 T, '70 BD, '78 MST Richard Kendall on February 26, 2005 at Courtenay, BC

'60 BA Agnes (Snyder) Blokland on February 10, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'60 The Collegiate Murray Leslie Firman on May 19, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'60 BA, '57 Collegiate Edward Lee Hambleton on January 23, 2005 at Montreal, QC

'61 BA (Hons.) James E. Anderson on March 22, 2004 at Toronto, ON

'61 BA Barbara Enid Jean (McIntyre) Carlyle on May 2, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'67 BA Donald John Jacobs on May 2, 2005 at Scarborough, ON

'68 BA (Hons.) Robert Lewis McCormack on May 28, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'69 BA Frederick G. Mills on March 28, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'69 BA Donna Margaret (Friesen) Seman on April 29, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'70 BA Lorne Arnott Finkbeiner on June 23, 2005 at Pine Falls, MB

'70 BA Shirley Price on March 22, 2004 at Penticton, BC

'71 BA (Hons.) Brian Ronald Primeau on June 5, 2005 at Toronto, ON

'73 BA John David Bartlette on June 10, 2005 at Steinbach, MB

'73 BA (Hons.) Brian Harold Laudin on May 1, 2005 at Selkirk, MB

'73 BA Sister Laurenza Lafreniere in 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'73 B.Th. '80 BA Clarence Shannon on November 26, 2004

'74 BA Sister Therese Brulé in 2004 at Winnipeg, MB

'74 LLD J. Arthur Coulter on April 11, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'75 BA Cornell Winnicki, Beausejour, MB

'75 BA Brian Zajac on September 15, 2000 at Winnipeg, MB

'76 BA Erika (Katy) Simons on February 16, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'78 BA Edward Su Yin Vun on May 12, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'80 BA, '74 The Collegiate Oliver Vermont on December 26, 2004

'82 The Collegiate Karen Ruth Neustaedter on March 6, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'83 The Collegiate Marla Naomi Altman on May 25, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'85 The Collegiate Christopher John Smith on February 27, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'86 The Collegiate Lillian Sohn in 1986

'91 B.Sc. 4-yr. Gordon W. Hiebert on May 26, 2004

'93 BA Sandra Lightfoot on August 10, 2004 at Winnipeg, MB

'94 Gail Ann Hebert on June 12, 2005 at Winnipeg, MB

'95 BA Jarrod (Jerry) Wade Loewen on December 26, 2004 at Khao Lak, Thailand

LOOKING BACK

TEXT: Lois Cherney BA '84, DCE '93

"Looking Back" is a regular department of the Journal. By reserving this page for nostalgic photos and tidbits of history, we hope to give you a sense of the longstanding tradition of The University of Winnipeg. For some readers, it will bring back memories. For others, it will put your time at the University in context. For all, we hope it will be a source of pride, that you are part of a rich and fascinating heritage.

Wesley in the 1920s

FIELD OF DREAMS

As World War I ended and the 1920s began, a renewed spirit was permeating Wesley College, later informally known as United Colleges (the earliest forerunners of The University of Winnipeg). The leadership of the new Principal **J.H. Riddell** was emerging and the College had a growing public presence. There was also the arrival of new faculty members, many of whom would go on to become legendary to generations of students, such as Professors **A. L. Phelps** and **A. R. M. Lower**. This decade was the beginning of Wesley's Golden Era.

In the classrooms, academic achievement was strong and great pride was taken in the awards students captured in the annual examinations. Outside the classrooms, several new clubs, like the English and History Clubs, were established, the regular exercise of Mock Parliament began, and Stunt Night, Theatre Night, and Grads Farewell became annual traditions. Wesley athletes won many titles in track, football, hockey, and curling. The first "tuck shop" was opened by **Charles Clay** and **Bob Neil** in the 1920s. (It would later become **Tony's.**) And many colourful traditions and stories of residence life were born.

The *Journal* staff would like to thank **Ronald B. McKitrick** and his sister **Lucille Howarth**, who sent us these photos from Wesley's Golden Era taken by their father **Bruce McKitrick.** Bruce attended Wesley College in the late 1920s. He went on to study social work at the University of Toronto, and then returned to Manitoba to run the Children's Aid in Brandon. In 1946 he was appointed the founding Judge of the Juvenile and Family Court for Thunder Bay District, Ontario.

Old Wesley Park was the scene of many athletic and sporting events over the years. Pictured above, a 1928 soccer match; final score Engineers 0, United Colleges 2.

Photo credit: Bruce J. McKitrick

The United Colleges Juniors InterFaculty 1928 soccer Champions.

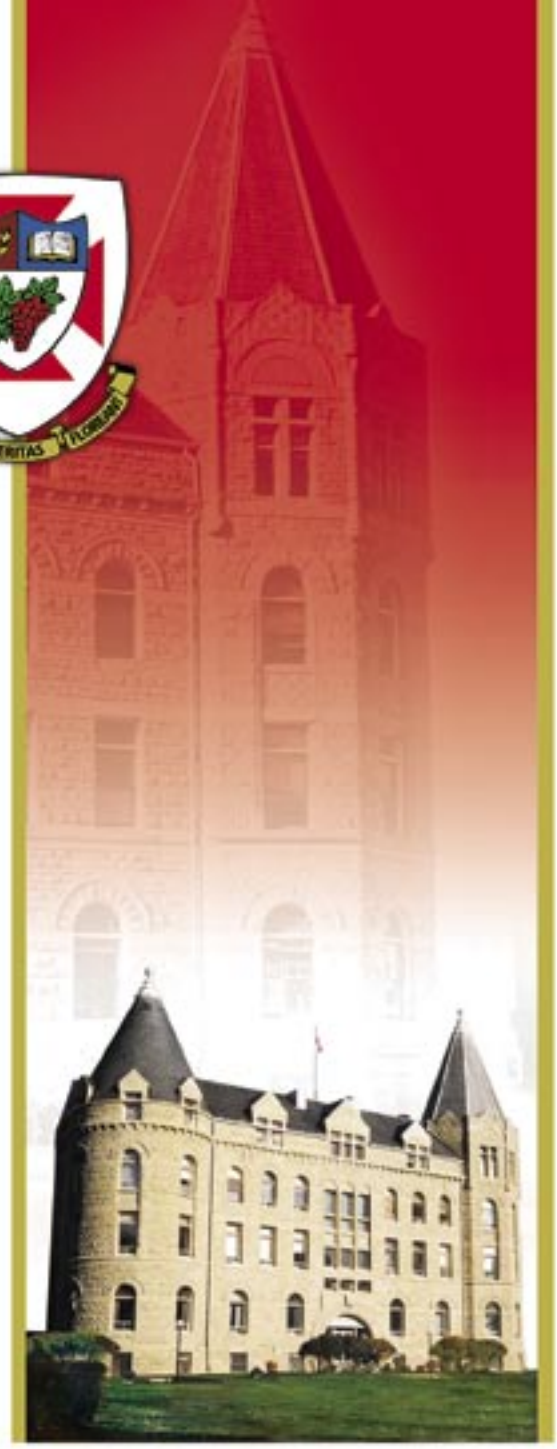
Photo credit: Bruce J. McKitrick

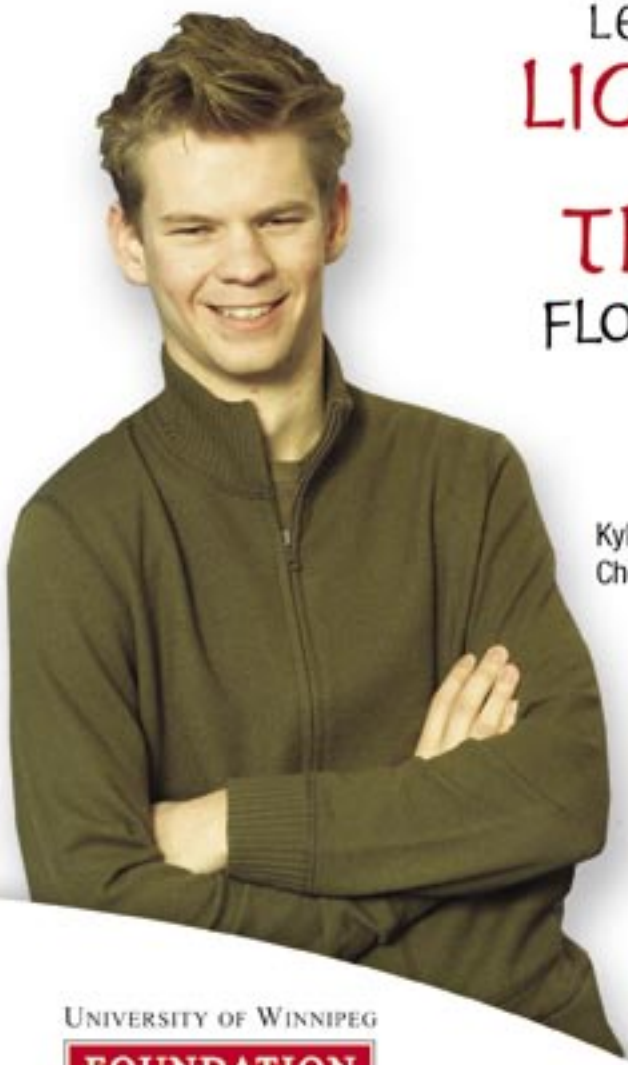
Students living in residence during 1925-26 assembled at the front doors of Wesley Hall for this photo. At the time, Wesley housed the men's residence; women lived in nearby Sparling Hall.

Photo credit: Bruce J. McKitrick

The next installment of "Looking Back" will focus on Convocation Hall in Wesley Hall. Do you have fond memories of Convocation Hall? Do you have a photo from a theatre performance, graduation, or comedy night that you would like to share? Submit your picture, along with a description and a completed "Update Your Alumni Record" postcard, to Lois Cherney at the address on page 2. The first three alumni to respond will receive a prize, so send in your photos today! Please note: the *Journal* is not able to return photos. Please keep this in mind if you are sending originals.

"The University of Winnipeg has always been supportive of me as a student and interested in me as an academic. The University has been essential in getting me where I am today and has provided me with the confidence, abilities, and knowledge to control the rest of my life."





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Chemistry Graduate

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