

THE JOURNAL

A magazine for alumni and friends of THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

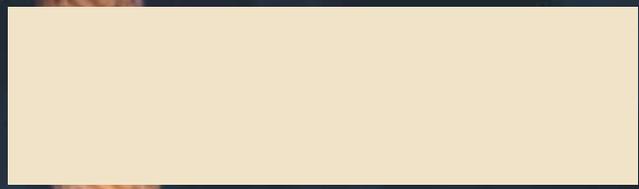
The UNIVERSITY of WINNIPEG

J.

Fall/Winter 2003

1935 - 2003  
*Carol Shields*

Return to:  
The University of Winnipeg  
Alumni Relations  
4W21-515 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 2E9



Join us as we begin  
a new chapter...

The University of Winnipeg proudly  
introduces

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... in the tradition of



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associations with The University  
of Winnipeg, and many have studied  
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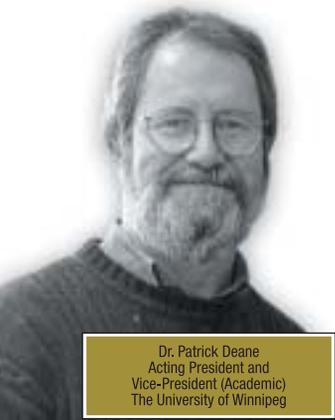
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The *Journal* is published in Fall and Spring for the alumni, faculty, staff, and friends of The University of Winnipeg by the Alumni and Communications offices. Correspondence should be addressed to The University of Winnipeg *Alumni Journal*, 4W21 - 515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 2E9 | T: 204.786.9711 | Out of Town Toll-free: 1.888.829.7053 | F: 204.783.8983 | e-mail: alumni@uwinnipeg.ca | www.uwinnipeg.ca | Publications Mail Sales Agreement No. 40064037

Cover

Subject: Carol Shields  
Portrait: The University of  
Winnipeg Archives  
Artist: Daryl Jones

**BILL BLAIKIE AND CARL RIDD:  
INFLUENTIAL FRIENDS**

I am writing to you to tell you how very much I enjoyed reading the Spring/Summer 2003 issue of *The Journal*. The article on my old friend Bill Blaikie's political career was most informative, echoing the influence the University had on my life during the fifties. Following Dr. Graham's retirement and the arrival of his successor Dr. Lockhart, a new era was ushered in towards the establishment of The University of Winnipeg in 1967 from United College.

Even though I was in first-year Theology at the time, I learned much from Carl Ridd, who graduated from Theology in 1958. He was my friend and mentor, and sometimes my "Father Confessor." Although we were 1,000 miles apart, we maintained contact over the years. In 1984, he flew from Winnipeg to Toronto to visit my congregation in St. George to be guest speaker on the problems in El Salvador in the wake of the death of Bishop Romero.

*The Journal* memorial on Carl by Peter Denton was very moving, describing with great sensitivity the character of the man. Carl's legacy will be with us for many years to come. I would very much appreciate your indicating to Peter Denton how I was drawn into his writing and felt privileged to share his grief.

*Rev. Doug Sly  
BA '57 United College, Theology '60  
Parksville, B.C.*

**CLASS OF '43 LOOKS BACK &  
INTO THE FUTURE**

Hello out there. This is a time-warp call from the Class of '43 to the Class of 2043. Greetings from the not-yet-dead to the not-yet-born. We were born soon after WWI, came of age in The Great Depression, graduated from United College into WWII. In 2003, there are about a dozen of us left.

Wesley Hall was so impressive for us, this great piece of late 19th century architecture on Portage Avenue, surrounded by its lawns and flowerbeds. We were considered the "privileged youth" of our day. Only four per cent of Canada's population had a university education. We didn't feel like the elite. We needed a good introduction to the humanities, and that's what we got from a committed faculty. Some of them were distinguished in their field. Others were simply excellent teachers. All of them were still on the depressed pay scale of the Dirty Thirties.

The era we graduated into gave us the first atomic bomb, the United Nations, and TV so we could watch our world changing very fast. A World's Fair in Montreal marked our Centennial. We "brought home" our Constitution. We survived campus protests, student love-ins, and the sexual revolution in its several guises. The space race put a man on the moon. Soon we all had a personal computer, credit cards, and cell phones. Scientific progress has been impressive. But hope of "progress" per se is qualified. We live with the threat of pollution, global warming, new mutant viruses, shifting world power blocks, violence, and social dislocation.

As you expected, we have our memories. But we also have our imagination. We have lived into your 21st century. We see you, the graduates of 2043, living into the 22nd century. For your personal odyssey, we wish you well. For your times, we wish you accelerated progress toward peace, justice, and a fairer distribution of the world's goods.

*Peter Gordon White  
Senior Stick, BA '43 (United College),  
M.Div. '56, DD '64  
Toronto, Ont.*

**PROFESSOR LEATHERS  
WAS A WORK OF ART**

I still feel the same awe and respect for the late Professor Victor Leathers that I felt some 30 years ago when I stood outside his office door under a huge sign that read: "Professor Leathers is a Work of Art."

I had but one more subject to take in Honours French in order to obtain my BA. But unfortunately, the course I needed was being offered in the afternoons, when I had to be home with my son, Peter, who was going to kindergarten in the mornings. So, I decided to ask Professor Leathers for his advice.

Sheepishly, I knocked on his door and heard him say in as gruff a manner as he could muster, "Enter! Enter!" And then, "Sit down, young lady!" I was determined not to abandon the course, but I did not know what to say. I found myself ending my plea with, "God doesn't love me. He always places obstacles in my way."

After a brief silence he snapped, "Young lady! Be here tomorrow morning at 9:30 a.m. Sharp!" Then, without further ado, he waved his chubby hand to allow another, much younger, student to come in.

The next morning, I sat facing the venerable professor in his office, waiting for him to say something. Without even glancing at me he finally spoke, "I've had a word with God, young lady," he said. "God loves you. So, I decided to teach you the course here—in my office, in the morning. You may leave now," he added abruptly.

I cannot help thinking, "Not only was professor Victor Leathers a Work of Art, but he was also a saint."

*Ann Swann BA '72  
Aurora, B.C. 📧*

# Together



Together, we have created an award-winning magazine. At its annual competition, the Canadian Council for the Advancement of Education awarded a bronze medal to The University of Winnipeg Alumni Journal in the "Best Magazine (under \$100,000)" category.

While the editorial team takes pride in this achievement, we know that the quality of the publication depends enormously on the participation and support of our alumni and friends. Your stories fill these pages. Your feedback and ideas contribute to every aspect of the magazine. Together, we have created a publication that reflects the unique educational experience of The University of Winnipeg and the success of its graduates.

You'll notice that a new department, "Your Letters," appears on the opposite page and we hope it becomes a staple of every Journal. Again, we rely on you. Please share with us your memories of your alma mater, your thoughts about a liberal arts and sciences education, your comments on the stories we publish, and your ideas about articles we might cover in the future. This reciprocal dialogue can make the Journal an even more dynamic magazine.

And, if you can, please consider getting actively involved with your Alumni Association. By participating in one of the many interesting volunteer opportunities, you will both contribute to the campus and meet other alumni, and faculty, staff, and students. (Read more about volunteer opportunities below.)

Your participation in the life of the University is important. After all, it is only by working together that we can continue the tradition of excellence!

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.

**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.

**Career Mentor** - Meet with a student or graduate to share your career insight and experiences.

If you are interested in any of these volunteer opportunities, please contact Lois Cherney, Program Director, Alumni Relations, at [l.cherney@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:l.cherney@uwinnipeg.ca) or 204.786.9134.



# *dwelling among the* **memories**

## A CHANCELLOR AND FRIEND REMEMBERED

TEXT: Neil Besner, Dean of Humanities PHOTO: University of Winnipeg Archives

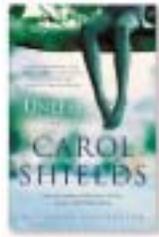
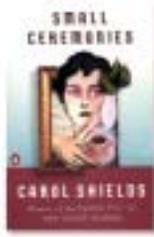
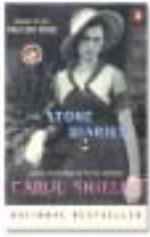
*After a lengthy battle with breast cancer, Carol Shields passed away on July 16, 2003. Carol, an author, playwright, poet, and literary critic, was Chancellor of The University of Winnipeg from 1996 to 1999.*

Because Carol's life taught us a long lesson in making her professional and personal, her public and private lives one, it seems fitting to try to remember the singular grace that attended all of her finely related qualities and made her so remarkably whole. The woman who served us so warmly as Chancellor was an internationally acclaimed writer, a wise and loving mother, a mentor, and friend to many, including countless colleagues in the arts, and always, a woman imbued with a genius for inquiry and a love for language, a sheer belief in mere words.

Carol was happily possessed of an abiding and generous curiosity about other people's lives. This made her an inveterate listener and watcher, and made a friendship with Carol

into a very long conversation in which you did most of the talking. In return—as many of us heard aloud over the years at Convocation, or, in another tone and register, in her fiction, poetry, drama, and biography—Carol gave us back, as if for the first time, our lives in language, seemingly fuller, more rounded with inspiration and hope, than we had thought ourselves to be.

It is difficult to think of Carol without remembering her smiling, often at a private reflection that seemed just to have surfaced, as if people's behaviour, along with its fascination for her, was always new to her, and also not so much wholly amusing as ironically aslant or wryly apt—as if she delighted, and I think she did, in discovering endless, often comic



Pulitzer Prize winning author, Carol Shields, connected with students through the English departments at The University of Winnipeg and the University of Manitoba.

variations in human beings and the mazes we make of our lives. This was the subject of much of her writing, but it was also, in another mode, a quality of her everyday imagination; just as her novels' characters are often surprised by their lives, so Carol often seemed so fascinated by this life that it made her laugh in wonderment; I like to think that the timbre of her voice—its inimitable cheer, light, sunny and airy—was another signal of the high delight she took in ordinary amazement, which she found everywhere.

During her time as Chancellor, Carol brought all that she was to an astonishing number of University functions and occasions—to the Chancellor's Forum, to Board committees, alumni events, classroom visits, readings, and ceremonies at home and afar. Here as elsewhere, she was only, and utterly, herself. Recently, I have heard from several colleagues who had similar experiences: students calling to say how grateful they were to have met Carol in a class, or to have studied one of her novels in a course, or, especially, to have heard her speak—as if to each and every graduating student—at Convocation. I believe she is being remembered in these ways by so many of us because of the quiet rare presence she inhabited and, in her writing, inhabits still.

Perhaps the highest honour we can do Carol is to dwell among the memories she so naturally and artfully created for us. She brought, and continues to bring to The University of Winnipeg immense good will and a loving heart. We are better human beings, and a far better institution, for having known her. **U**

## SPRING CONVOCATION

On the occasion of her installation as Chancellor at Convocation in 1996, Carol Shields offered a warm and welcoming speech to the new graduates. A portion of her speech appears below. To read the full text, visit [www.uwinnipeg.ca](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca) and follow the links.

*"I should tell you that coming through the doors of Wesley Hall never fails to thrill me. The beautiful stone, the handsome architecture, the plaque that spells out a history of more than one hundred years—more than a hundred because, as you will remember, the building was begun in 1884. Are we influenced by architecture, by the spaces we inhabit? Yes, I think we are. And—and this is important—inside this graceful old building can be heard the busy modern hum of a university which is facing—squarely facing—the twenty-first century. This weekend we have been witness to the new shape, the new direction of our University. I can only say that I am happy, and honoured, to be aboard. Thank you."*

### The Inez Sellgren Bursary

Carol Shields established The Inez Sellgren Bursary in honour of her mother. The funds annually provide assistance to a single parent entering any full-time program of study at The University of Winnipeg. Carol wished to give preference to students whose assessed financial need for government-sponsored student aid programs exceeds the maximum funds available from these sources.

To give toward Carol's request, visit [www.uwinnipegfoundation.ca](http://www.uwinnipegfoundation.ca) or call 786.9013 (in Winnipeg) or 1.888.829.7053 (in Canada and the U.S.).

# BICUSPIDS IN BOLIVIA

THE INTERNATIONAL ADVENTURES OF CHRIS COTTICK

TEXT: Kendra Gaede

Ask The University of Winnipeg's new **Alumni Association President Chris Cottick** to describe a usual workday and the answer is simple and in triplicate—teeth, teeth, teeth.

"Basically, I look at teeth or sometimes gums from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. every day," says Cottick. "I have a private practice on Corydon and for two half days a week I also supervise senior students at The University of Manitoba's Faculty of Dentistry."

All this and still Cottick has found time to volunteer with the University's Alumni Association for many years, participating in frame sales at grads, Food for Thought events, scholarship receptions, among other alumni functions. In October of 1999, he joined the Alumni Council, and was recently voted Alumni Association President.

"I see it as my job to help keep the Alumni Association on track, helping the University build support for its important role in our community," he says. "The University of Winnipeg is an important symbol of accessible education in Manitoba. It is so important to have a vibrant youthful sector of the population right downtown."

His interest in supporting the University could also have something to do with genetics: Cottick comes from strong alumni stock. His parents both attended United College: his father, **Alexander Cottick** (who went on to become a dentist), in the 1940s and his mother, Violet Evelyn Murray, in the late 1950s. His brother, **Alexander Cottick**, went to The University of Winnipeg in 1978-79 before going on to dental school. Chris's wife, **Marlene Dieter**, attended for two years before pursuing her nursing degree at the University of Manitoba.



Though it was just the beginning of Cottick's university career (he went on to Dentistry at the University of Manitoba and did his internship at Winnipeg's General Hospital), he says his B.Sc. in Biology with a minor in History (Class of '86) at The University of Winnipeg influenced his social awareness.

In 1999, Cottick decided to tag along with a colleague on his semi-annual trip to South America, where he provided much-needed, free dental care to the indigenous people of Bolivia.

"We traveled to the jungles of Bolivia in the Bene province, where we provided dental care to the natives," he says. "The three-week trip was hard, but it felt good to help out, since these people have nothing—especially no dental care."

Cottick says the experience was priceless, but he was happy to come home to Winnipeg.

"Besides my family, friends, and connections, I appreciate Winnipeg for its moderate size and livability, its green space and mature trees," he says, noting that The University of Winnipeg is a part of that appreciation.

"The University of Winnipeg is a great place to go to school; small, supportive and friendly, while also providing excellent education," he says. "Its active social conscience helps promote humanitarianism in all its alumni."

In 2001, Cottick returned to the same Bolivian village to repeat his rewarding periodontal adventure. ■

## THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG ALUMNI COUNCIL 2003-04

Christopher Cottick '86, President  
Doug Nanton '88, Past-President  
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Bryan Osborne '89, Team Leader (Communications)  
Jane Dick '72, Assistant Team Leader (Communications)

Thamilarasu Subramaniam '96, Team Leader (Volunteers)  
Vince Merke '01, Assistant Team Leader (Volunteers)

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Elizabeth Walker '98  
Frank Liebzeit '68

Board of Regents Representatives:  
Brenda Proskan '96  
Debra Radi '81, '85  
Ian Restall '79

If you would like to get involved, please contact:  
Lois Cherney, Program Director, Alumni Relations  
Phone: 204.786.9134 E-mail: l.cherney@uwinnipeg.ca

## UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCES BALANCED BUDGET & STRONG FORECASTS

On June 26, The University of Winnipeg Board of Regents took stock of the University—its people, finances, infrastructure, and future. The Audit and Finance committees reported landmark financial improvements and strengthening of the University's financial position.

### With no cuts to programs or people, a balanced financial report for Fiscal Year 2002-03 included:

- total elimination of the accumulated \$1.1 million deficit
- an accumulated operating surplus of \$59,000
- payout of \$1.3 million of costs associated with the settlement of Pension Plan

### Fiscal year 2003-04 forecasts include:

- a balanced budget for this year
- partial restoration of equipment and materials budgets

"The University of Winnipeg has long had the reputation as one of Canada's leaders in liberal arts and sciences education. Together faculty, staff, administration, Regents, alumni, and donors rallied to eliminate the University's accumulated deficit and present a balanced budget," says Patrick Deane, Acting

President and Vice-President (Academic). "The University of Winnipeg's robust financial health now rivals its national reputation for access and excellence."

During the past fiscal year, the University also ratified contracts with all of its unions, including a five-year contract with UWFA, the faculty union. As well, through the cooperation and resolve of all parties, the University concluded long-standing pension issues.

The search for the University's next president has begun in earnest. The Board of Regents approved selection criteria for the next President and Vice-Chancellor of The University of Winnipeg, and it is anticipated that the new president will be in place by September 2004.

"This has been quite a year," says Richard Graydon, Board of Regents Chair. "I am proud to stand alongside the Regents, Senior Administration, and The University of Winnipeg community through this time of transition. We have been tested and not been found wanting. Together, on solid financial footing, we look forward to an even stronger future."

## In Memoriam

*It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of professors Audrey Flood and Dorothy Jane Snidal.*

### Audrey Flood

**Audrey Flood** passed away on September 1, 2003. Born in Lancashire, England and educated at Oxford University, Audrey was hired in 1963 to teach in the Political Science department at United College. She taught in the field of comparative politics until her retirement as an Associate Professor in 1999. A longstanding member of the department and of the University, Professor Flood had a reputation among her students as a dedicated teacher, and amongst her peers as an esteemed colleague. "Audrey was a prodigious reader and student of her discipline of political science," says **Allen Mills**, Chair of the University's Politics Department and Acting Director of the Aboriginal Self Governance Program. "She brought a radical perspective to the classroom and was a very successful teacher."

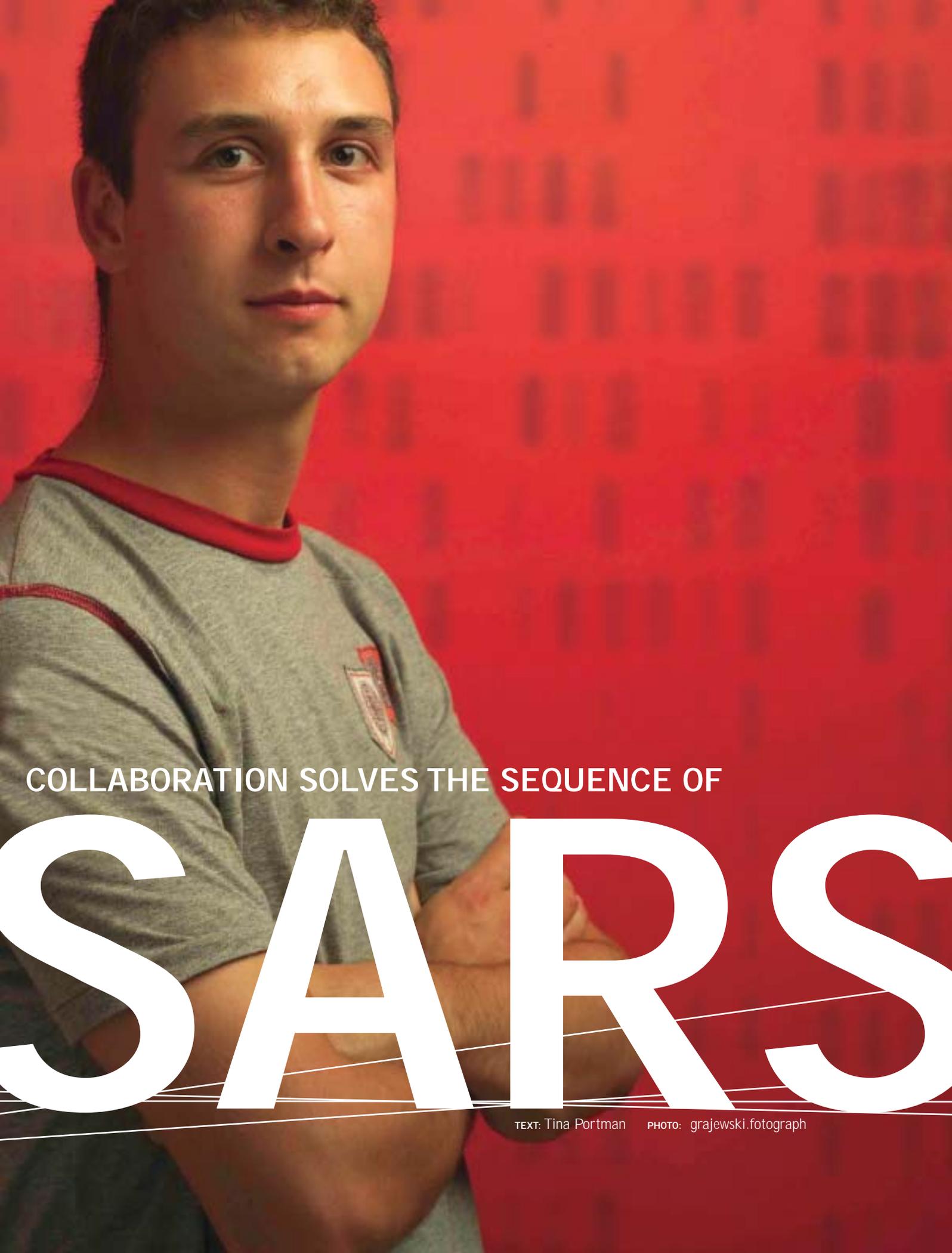
A scholarship has been established in Audrey's name. To give to the Audrey Flood Scholarship, visit [www.uwinnipeg.ca](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca) or call 786.9013 (in Winnipeg) or 1.888.829.7053 (long distance and U.S.).

### Dorothy Jane Snidal

**Dorothy Jane Snidal** passed away at the St. Boniface Hospital on September 12, 2003 after a brief illness. Born in Toronto, Jane attended Trinity College, University of Toronto where she received an Honours Degree in political science and economics. She resumed her studies, after 14 years as a homemaker and volunteer, to receive her MA and went on to complete post-graduate courses at the University of Manitoba and teach at The University of Winnipeg. She retired from The University of Winnipeg in 1997 as Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Economics. In retirement, Jane volunteered for the Age and Opportunity Centre, Adult Education, and Meals on Wheels.

"Jane was a very impressive woman with a lot to offer to her students and colleagues. She had a very strong presence and was most admired," says **Sohrab Abizadeh**, Economics professor. "As Economics Chair, her contribution to our department has had a lasting impact."

In lieu of flowers, Jane's family has requested that a donation be made to Trinity College, the University of Toronto, or The University of Winnipeg.



COLLABORATION SOLVES THE SEQUENCE OF

# SARS

TEXT: Tina Portman PHOTO: [grajewski.fotograph](http://grajewski.fotograph)

By April 2003, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) had infected almost 3,000 people in 17 countries and killed over 100 patients. In Vancouver, B.C., **Obi Griffith (B.Sc. Hons. '01)** and four colleagues were clustered around a computer. Rows of DNA sequences—chains of Gs, Cs, Ts, and As representing the four nucleotides that make up DNA—appeared on the screen.

Griffith and the Bioinformatics group from British Columbia Cancer Agency's (BCCA) Genome Sciences Centre (GSC) were smiling. Already, the computer program had assembled the DNA sequence fragments into three big pieces and only a handful of small ones. They were looking at most of the genome of the SARS virus.

"We had multiple *eureka* moments," says Griffith. "By Friday night, almost all the data was there. We knew we had it."

Genomes are too big to sequence whole—they must be sequenced in small pieces. The SARS virus genome had been translated from its original RNA into DNA pieces that, when overlapped, encompassed the entire genome. Griffith's job, with the help of computer programs, was to put those DNA pieces together in the correct order.

"Sometimes the computer gets it completely wrong and it's just a mess," says Griffith. "It's like someone took a jigsaw puzzle and hammered it together. You can make it fit but it doesn't look right. So we have to pull it apart and redo it."

Griffith and three colleagues drank coffee, ate pizza and Tim Horton's donuts, and worked all night to assemble the SARS sequence.

"Even though we were tired we didn't want to stop and go home," says Griffith.

Finally, at 4 a.m. on April 12, BCCA posted the first complete SARS virus sequence, a new type of coronavirus, on the World Wide Web. With this data, international researchers could improve SARS diagnosis, track the origins of the virus, and begin developing vaccines.

Griffith's experience with collaborative research began as an undergraduate. His directed studies with University of Winnipeg biology professors **Ric Moodie** and **Alberto Civetta** resulted in a research paper in the journal *Experimental Gerontology*. He worked for two summers studying beetle pheromones with chemistry professor **Désirée Vanderwel**. They are currently writing a research paper.

"Obi was a great guy to have around," says Vanderwel. "He was very curious and he came up with neat ideas. He really enriched the lab environment."

Vanderwel received an email from Griffith after BCCA cracked the SARS genome sequence. "He's usually a pretty calm guy. But he was excited with the results."

Griffith's SARS work was the culmination of a national collaboration. The SARS virus (Tor2 strain) came from a Toronto SARS patient. Then the National Microbiology Laboratory (NML) in Winnipeg purified the genome and sent it to the BCCA, where it was then given to the GSC in Vancouver.

Despite multiple groups working in different cities, several team members shared a common bond: The University of Winnipeg. In addition to Griffith, alumna **Lisa Fernando (B.Sc. Hons. '99)** started working with the SARS virus on March 19 in Winnipeg's highest containment laboratory, Biosafety Level 4. Fernando and her colleagues, including **Adrienne Meyers (B.Sc. Hons. '96)**, worked 16 to 20-hour days trying to match sequence fragments from the SARS virus with sequences from known viruses.

"It was a shot in the dark," says Fernando, a research associate in the Special Pathogens Program. "We were trying everything under the sun—hemorrhagic viruses [such as Ebola], hantaviruses, smallpox..."

**Brynn Watson (B.Sc. '01)** and her group in the DNA Core Facility at NML did the DNA sequencing. Says Watson, "During the outbreak, our role was turning the data out as fast as possible."

By March 24, electron microscopy and sequence data identified the SARS virus as a coronavirus.

SARS collaboration reached beyond Canada. Twelve labs in nine countries shared leads and research findings by email and teleconferencing. By working together, researchers completed a scientific process that normally takes months in only four weeks.

Griffith says that he was fortunate to be involved in sequencing the SARS genome and he acknowledges the weeks of laboratory work that generated the sequences. "Assembling the sequence data is at the end of the process, it's the very last step."

Griffith, Fernando, Watson, and Meyers, together with 55 Canadian colleagues, published the genome sequence of the SARS coronavirus in the May 30 issue of the journal *Science*.

"In a field as rapidly changing as molecular genetics and cell biology, Obi and the other students were able to make a seamless transition onto a multidisciplinary team doing truly cutting edge work," says **Ed Byard**, chair of the University's biology department. "We're enormously proud of all of them." ■

UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG ALUMNI ARE AN ACTIVE GROUP! EACH YEAR, THERE ARE MANY NEW EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES TO SHARE. IF YOU'VE PARTICIPATED IN AN ALUMNI EVENT AND YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS, OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO FIND OUT HOW TO GET INVOLVED, THIS IS THE PLACE FOR YOU!

### A GREAT NEW ALUMNI TRAVEL PROGRAM

The Alumni Travel Group, together with its new local provider, The Great Canadian Travel Company Ltd., is developing an expanded program for 2004.

The new program will offer alumni travelers a wider variety of destinations and experiences. In addition to the usual 10-15 day tours, weekend and short-haul trips will now be among the offerings. As well, many of the tours will focus on a cultural experience or embrace a theme.

"We might organize a theatre weekend in New York or a four-day history of blues tour in Chicago. Or how about a short trip to Churchill to see the polar bears? These are just a few examples of what we could put together," says Lois Cherney, Program Director, Alumni Relations. "Alumni travelers should check the website ([www.uwinnipeg.ca/web/alumni](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/web/alumni)) periodically to see what's being offered and give us feedback on where they would like to go."



### YOUR ALUMNI CARD: FREE FOR THE ASKING

The University of Winnipeg Alumni Card is available free of charge to all graduates of The University of Winnipeg, United and Wesley Colleges, as well as graduates of a Division of Continuing Education (DCE) program.

To request an Alumni Card, use the postage-paid insert, included with this issue of the *Journal*, or visit our website and submit the "What's New with You?" form electronically. Your card will then be sent to you by mail.

Alumni cardholders are entitled to free campus library privileges, discounts on Duckworth Centre athletic memberships, 15 per cent off campus bookstore giftware (excludes books), and 10 per cent off courses at Continuing Education.



### HISTORY TOUR STRIKES UP INTEREST

A full busload of alumni and friends enjoyed the Alumni Association's first-ever "Winnipeg General Strike Tour" last May. Led by History Professor **Nolan Reilly**, the exceptionally popular tour gave participants a sense of what Winnipeg was like, socially and politically, in 1919. Professor Reilly described the events leading up to the largest community strike that ever occurred in Canada. He also discussed its broader implications for labour across the country and its significance in history. Sites on the tour included the CPR Station (now the Aboriginal Centre) and the Ukrainian Labour Temple. The tour will be held again in May 2004.



To find out more about Alumni news and events, contact Lois Cherney, Program Director, Alumni Relations



e-mail: [l.cherney@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:l.cherney@uwinnipeg.ca) phone: 204.786.9134



Or visit the Alumni website at: [www.uwinnipeg.ca/web/alumni](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/web/alumni)



## DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS HELPS TO BUILD WINNIPEG'S VIBRANT ARTS COMMUNITY

**Larry Desrochers '84**, Director of Manitoba Opera, was presented with the Distinguished Alumni Award at Fall Convocation.

From behind the scenes and through a wide range of arts organizations, Desrochers has helped to build and sustain Winnipeg's vibrant cultural community. He was one of the founders of the Winnipeg Fringe Festival, which now regularly breaks attendance records; he coordinated the opening and closing ceremonies of the highly successful Pan American Games, held in 1999 in Winnipeg; and as an arts administrator, he revitalized the Winnipeg Film Group. Desrochers has been very involved with the city's major theatres, directing numerous productions and serving as Director of Marketing at Prairie Theatre Exchange and Associate Artistic Director at Manitoba Theatre Centre.

Presented twice annually at Convocation, the Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes a graduate of The University of Winnipeg, United or Wesley Colleges who has made a significant contribution to his/her profession and to the community at large. If you know an alumnus who is deserving of the award, please forward your nomination to the Alumni Office.

## ONE GIANT LEAP FOR THE ALUMNI ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Each year, Alumni Entrance Scholarships help outstanding high school students launch their University careers. This year, an additional scholarship was added to the pool of seven Alumni Entrance Scholarships offered by The University of Winnipeg, which are among the most prestigious awards available in the province.

"It is important to remember that it takes a long time to build up enough capital in an endowment to start just one scholarship of \$4,500 in perpetuity, so it's wonderful when it finally comes to fruition," explains Lois Cherney, Program Director, Alumni Relations. "Alumni can now reward one more exceptional student every year."

The increase is the result of a steady accumulation of donations to the endowment in the past several years, plus matching money from the provincial government's Manitoba Scholarship and Bursary Initiative. Alumni Entrance Scholarship winners are chosen on the basis of high academic achievement, participation in extracurricular activities, demonstrated leadership qualities and strength of character. Every high school can nominate just one student for these scholarships. Congratulations to this year's winners:

- Karen Bees**, Silver Heights Collegiate
- Tiffany Bilodeau**, Nelson McIntyre Collegiate
- Kanwal Brar**, Sisler High School
- Richelle Bronsdon**, J.H. Bruns Collegiate
- Pierce Cairns**, Grandview School (MB)
- Peter Klippenstein**, Westgate Mennonite Collegiate
- Anne Laser**, Glenlawn Collegiate Institute
- Gillian Sze**, Fort Richmond Collegiate

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION'S FIRST ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



The winners of the Alumni Association's first annual Golf Tournament in September (from left to right): Bryan Osborne '89, Shirley Payment '91, Ray Kroll, Dick Mulholland '02



Some professors also joined in the fun at Shooters Family Golf Centre (from left to right): Andy Lockery, Bill Evans, Ron Norton, and Robin Woods

# Tribute to Bernice Blazewicz Pitcairn



Bernice Blazewicz Pitcairn, Class of '53

TEXT: Patti Tweed '95 PHOTO: provided by the Pitcairn family

**Bernice Blazewicz** was a beautiful woman. Through the eyes of **John Pitcairn**, she was the most beautiful woman he had ever seen. Thus began a 46-year love affair, back in the early fifties, when the young chartered accountancy student, John Pitcairn, met, and fell in love with the studious Bernice Blazewicz.

An Arts student at United College, Bernice had money for tuition and room, but virtually no money for books and, indeed, not much money for food. Determined to make the best of opportunities available, Bernice caught the attention of one of the librarians, who helped her to obtain the books she needed.

Following Bernice and John's marriage and John's graduation as a Chartered Accountant, the couple was transferred to San Francisco with Deloitte & Touche. Five years later Bernice and John became business partners, working side by side in their own firm of Pitcairn Accountants Inc. Intel and National Semiconductor were among their first clients. Specializing in forensic accounting, they worked on litigation projects all over the U. S., Europe, Asia, and South America. Theirs was a true partnership in marriage and in business, a success story, based on hard work, integrity, and good timing.

Bernice had always held the University and its library in high regard. When John received a letter from the University following Bernice's death in December 2001, he was especially touched by the Alumni Association's tradition of placing a book in the library in Bernice's memory. It is the custom of The University of Winnipeg Alumni Association to place a book in the library in memory of each alumnus who passes away. **Anne Cramb**, one of the University's library staff, chose *Children's Geographies, Playing, Living, Learning* as the right choice to honour Bernice's interests. Having earned a BA (United College, 1953 and a B.Ped. (University of Manitoba, 1954) Bernice had established a career in teaching before becoming a managing partner in Pitcairn Accountants Inc. For 38 years,

through her favourite charity, Childreach, Bernice had helped children directly with clothes, schooling, and health care in countries around the world. She wanted to make a difference in the lives of these children, to provide support for children who had tuition, but no books or uniforms. Sound familiar? In the grand circle of life, Bernice was giving back as she received.

This philosophy of giving continues even now. Thanks to a very generous gift from John Pitcairn, in memory of his wife, the Bernice Blazewicz Pitcairn Learning Commons opened on October 29, 2003, an integral part of The University of Winnipeg Library. The Learning Commons will include a media gallery, teaching laboratory, and state of the art technology. It will be the site of programs that assist students with special needs, reflecting The University of Winnipeg's highly personalized approach to education.

Adjacent to the other areas of the Learning Commons and a few steps from the general Library space, Bernice's Reading Room, with its large windows and broad skylights welcomes sunlight during the day and permits a clear view of Manitoba's night sky. The furniture has been comfortably refinished, offering an ideal place for quiet reflection, reading, and individual study.

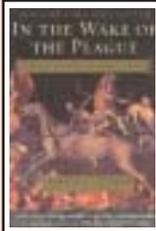
When asked what would have delighted Bernice the most about the Learning Commons, John replied, "the accessibility, the universality of it." She had the ability to make learning practical and understandable and was a genius in the use of "plain language" to cut through the complexity of words. Bernice was a born teacher, and it appears that, in a very real sense, her ability to bring learner and learning together lives on.

Bernice and John were committed to "giving back" with gratitude for the gifts given to them over time. Together they built a living and a life, and now, through Bernice's memory, they are building a legacy. ■

For more information about how you may make a gift to The University of Winnipeg, please contact Patti Tweed, Development Officer, Major and Planned Gifts, The University of Winnipeg Foundation, at 204.786.9123 or by e-mail at [p.tweed@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:p.tweed@uwinnipeg.ca)

# ALUMNI AUTHORS

TEXT: Paula Denbow

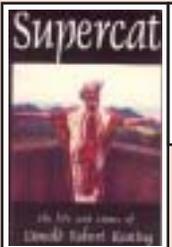


## IN THE WAKE OF THE PLAGUE: THE BLACK DEATH AND THE WORLD IT MADE

Norman E. Cantor '50, '74

**Norman E. Cantor's** *In the Wake of the Plague: The Black Death and the World it Made* is an insightful, provocative, and compelling book in which history, myth, and our own world reality collide. In this work Cantor takes a fresh look at the 14th century's Black Death, a plague which wiped out a third of Europe's population. By exploring the Black Death in its biomedical, social, and historical contexts, Cantor untangles the confusions and myths that cloud our understanding of the Plague and how this illness changed the course of history. This is not a book simply for academics or history buffs; rather, Cantor's vivid and lucid writing style will engage readers from all fields of interest.

One of the most widely read medieval historians, Cantor is a Professor Emeritus of History, Sociology, and Comparative Literature at New York University. He has published more than 17 books, including *Inventing the Middle Ages* and *The Civilization of the Middle Ages*. He has recently published his memoirs, entitled *Inventing Norman Cantor*.

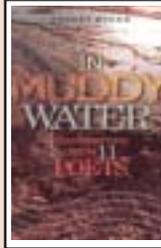


## SUPERCAT: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF DONALD ROBERT KEATING

Donald Keating '49, '56

**Donald Keating** has been both a troublemaker and a peacemaker for the best part of his life, which began in rural Manitoba in 1925. He took a series of pastoral posts with the United Church following his graduation from United College in 1956, but it was in Chicago that he found his voice as a community organizer and social activist. He joined a dynamic movement that was inspired and influenced by Saul Alinsky, Tom Gaudette, and Martin Luther King. It was there that he earned the epithet "Supercat" from colleagues and friends. In 1969 he returned to Canada, taking a job as a community organizer for Toronto's Riverdale Community. A decade later, Keating was in a terrible automobile accident, resulting in severe head injuries and traumatic memory loss. He was faced with

the challenge of regaining command of the English language and reconstructing his life.



## IN MUDDY WATER: CONVERSATIONS WITH 11 POETS

Robert Budde, Editor

*In Muddy Water: Conversations with 11 Poets* documents the diversity of poetry coming out of an eclectic group of Canadian poets. These poets range from established to emerging, traditional to experimental, and the dialogue created between them charts an expanse of themes and styles available to poetry readers. Poetry is a record of contemporary language and, as such, provides a map of contemporary life—a torn and muddied map, but a map nonetheless.

*In Muddy Water: Conversations with 11 Poets* includes interviews with **Catherine Hunter '86**, **Jon Paul Fiorentino '99**, **Robert Kroetsch LLD '83**, along with 8 other Canadian poets.



## ALIEN HEART

Lyall Powers '47

**Lyall Powers** first met **Peggy Wemyss** when both were English students at United College in 1945. They would start a friendship that lasted for the next 41 years. He would go on to a distinguished career as a scholar and teacher at universities in the U.S., while she would become **Margaret Laurence '47**, one of Canada's most beloved and respected writers.

*Alien Heart: The Life and Work of Margaret Laurence* combines Powers' unique personal knowledge and insights about Laurence's life with an in-depth look at her writing. It is illustrated with many never-before-seen photographs of Laurence.

Drawing on letters, personal correspondence, journals, and interviews, Powers discusses the struggles and triumphs Laurence experienced in her roles of writer, wife, mother, and public figure. He portrays a deeply compassionate and courageous woman, who yet felt troubled by conflicting demands and often thought of herself as "alien" to many of the circumstances in her life.

## CELEBRATING ALUMNI AUTHORS

*Congratulations to these University of Winnipeg alumni recognized for their literary accomplishments at the annual Brave New Words event:*

'72 **Linda Holeman** received the McNally Robinson Book for Young People Award (Older Category) for *Search of the Moon King's Daughter*.

'81 **Reinhold Kramer** received the Manitoba Historical Society's Margaret McWilliams Awards for Scholarly Books for *Walk Towards the Gallows*.

'84 **Maurice Mierau** was nominated for both the John Hirsch Award for Most Promising Manitoba Writer and the Eileen McTavish Sykes Award for Best First Book by a Manitoba Author for *Ending With Music*.

'85 **David Bergen** received the Carol Shields Winnipeg Book Award and was nominated for both the McNally Robinson Book of the Year Award and the Margaret Laurence Award for Fiction for *The Case of Lena S*.

'85 **Maureen Hunter, Associate Alumna** was nominated for the McNally Robinson Book of the Year Award for *Vinci*.

'86 **Catherine Hunter** was nominated for both the McNally Robinson Book of the Year Award and the Margaret Laurence Award for Fiction for *In the First Early Days of My Death*.

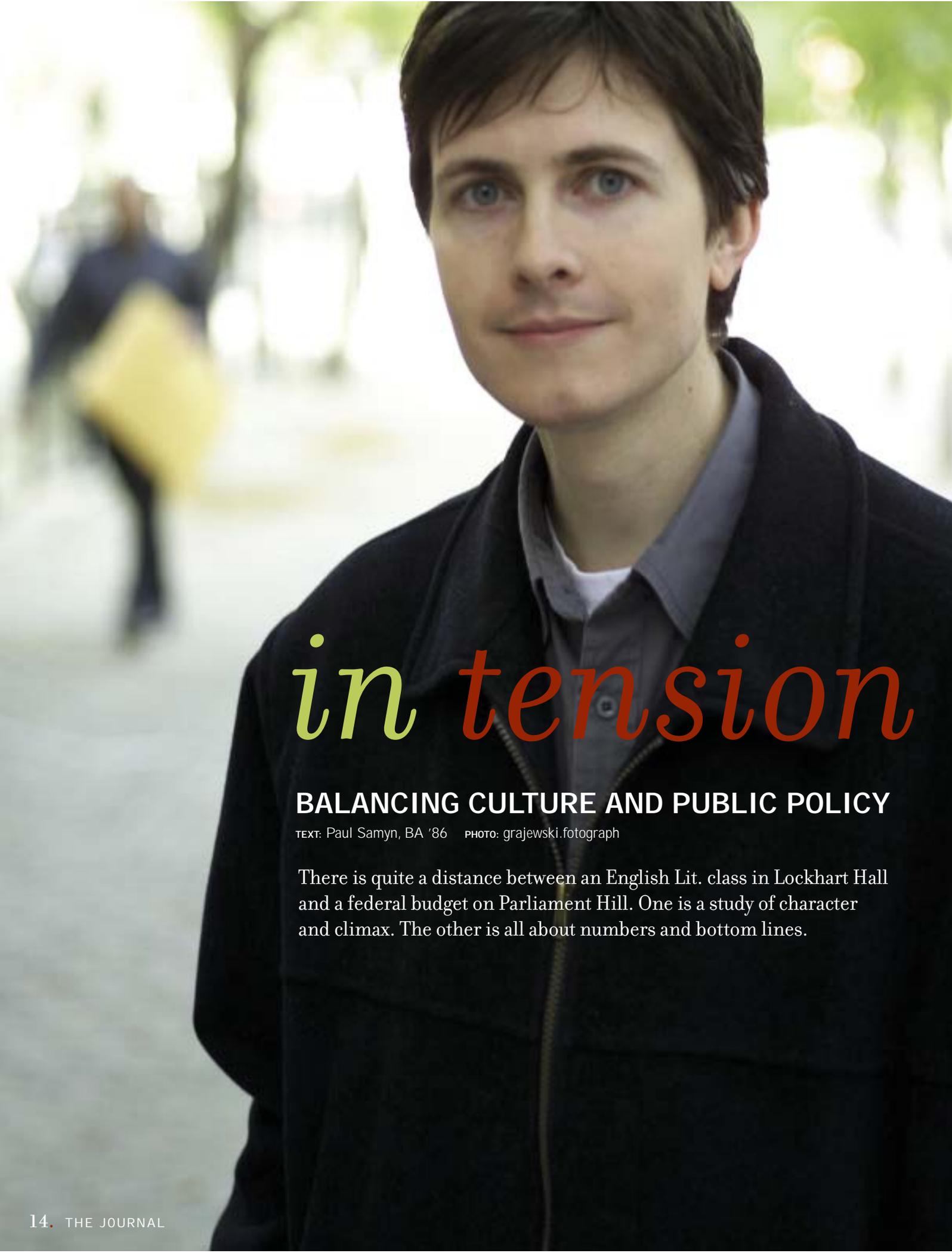
'93 **Kevin Longfield** was nominated for the Manitoba Historical Society's Margaret McWilliams Awards (Historical Fiction) for *From Fire to Flood: History of Theatre in Manitoba*.

'95 **Marvin Francis** received the John Hirsch Award for Most Promising Manitoba Writer.

'99 **Jon Fiorentino, Associate Alumnus** was nominated for the Carol Shields Winnipeg Book Award for *Transcona Fragments*.

'90 **Collegiate**, '02 **Chandra Mayor, Associate Alumna** received the Eileen McTavish Sykes Award for Best First Book by a Manitoba Author for her collection of poetry, *August Witch*. She was also nominated for three additional awards: the Mary Scorer Award for Best Book by a Manitoba Publisher, the Carol Shields Winnipeg Book Award, and the John Hirsch Award for Most Promising Manitoba Writer.

*Brave New Words* was sponsored by McNally Robinson Booksellers. The event was co-produced by the Manitoba Writers' Guild and the Association of Manitoba Book Publishers.



# *in tension*

## **BALANCING CULTURE AND PUBLIC POLICY**

ТЕХТ: Paul Samyn, BA '86    ФОТО: grajewski.fotograph

There is quite a distance between an English Lit. class in Lockhart Hall and a federal budget on Parliament Hill. One is a study of character and climax. The other is all about numbers and bottom lines.

Last February, armed with his honours English degree from The University of Winnipeg, **Todd Scarth, Class of 2000**, was bridging that distance as he tried to insert a few chapters of social justice into the country's schedule of debt payments and tax cuts.

Standing before a podium just down the hallway from the House of Commons, Scarth and the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA) delivered their budget vision as Finance Minister John Manley walked by.

Headly stuff indeed for someone whose degree doesn't appear to be the obvious grounding for working in a world of economics, public policy, and media spinning. Even more so when you consider that Scarth, as he jokes, "rocketed" through his four-year Arts degree at The University of Winnipeg in seven years.

But Scarth's unusual academic path to the post as head of the Manitoba office of the left-leaning CCPA is one which has clearly worked in more than one way.

"I came out of the English department, but I work now in public policy," explains Scarth. "I think that culture is as important as the everyday grind of public policy."

Though his academic focus was on literature, Scarth's interests at the University were wide-ranging. He also got involved with his politics professor **Jim Silver** in the group Thin Ice which led the charge against tax dollars being used to save the Winnipeg Jets. "Thin Ice was really appealing to me because it was a very small group. All we had in the way of resources was the truth and hard work," recalls Scarth who, despite lacking athletic acumen himself, remains a keen hockey fan. "I really felt Thin Ice was doing what democracy requires, that people ask questions and have tenacity in the face of a government and media, that for the most part, tells them to go away and be quiet."

Silver, a CCPA board member, felt Scarth's determination and intellect were exactly what was needed at the CCPA when it came to setting up a Manitoba office in 1999. "He really is quite remarkable for someone so young," says Silver. "He has already established himself as a public intellectual."

Scarth's work has also caught the attention of the province's political masters. "You get lots of pressure on the right but precious little on the left to keep the government honest," says Donne Flanagan, a former key aide to Premier Gary Doer and current chief-of-staff to federal NDP leader Jack Layton. "Nationally, there isn't all that much on the left side of the perspective, so Scarth certainly keeps the debate from being one-sided."

Of course, there is more to life than trying to keep debates from tilting to the right. He and his partner have a baby on the way and travel in a social circle filled with members of Winnipeg's eclectic arts community who help keep the city on the map. "I really like the fact that when I leave the office, I have this whole other world," he says of his creative friends who are into everything from visual arts to alternative music. "I have a love-hate relationship with politics—the world in which I work—and I am very, very aware of not being sucked into the job so much that I lose track of the other things that I care about."

While doing his degree, Scarth and friend John Samson set up the publishing house *Arbeiter Ring*—German for Workers' Circle—a venture that is still going strong. Not surprisingly, its publication list covers many of Scarth's interests, from a work on fellow alum and Winnipeg filmmaker **Guy Maddin '78** to a new look at the 1995 provincial vote-splitting scandal.

When Scarth thinks back to his time at The University of Winnipeg, he is thankful for the way he learned to think critically and follow his curiosity, a mix that has offered the chance to be at the intersection of academia, public policy, and activism at the CCPA and provided a strong foundation for other pursuits.

It's also strengthened an already firm backbone. "Not to sound corny, but I think that if I didn't stand up for what I believe in, or if I failed to pursue an idea simply because it wasn't easy, I wouldn't feel very good about myself," says Scarth. "And, life would be a lot more boring." 

*Paul Samyn (BA '86, History) is The Winnipeg Free Press national reporter based in Ottawa.*

## all in the family

Todd Scarth is not the only member of his family to claim alumni status at The University of Winnipeg. Parents **Dianna Scarth '65** and **Wayne Scarth '66** as well as brother **Tim Scarth '01** each have a bachelor of arts to their name.



*the*  
**G**arden  
*of language*

TEXT: Leslie Malkin PHOTO: grajewski.fotograph

As you walk south on Balmoral Avenue just past St. Mary Avenue, you will discover a tranquil garden whose simple beauty reflects the significance of its origin.

Harvey Garden, located between two of The University of Winnipeg's student residence houses, was donated by **Dr. Carol Harvey**, in memory of her late husband, Dr. Al Harvey. Today, this garden bears witness to her dedication, not only to her family, but also to the University, her students, and to the surrounding community. And as any gardener will tell you, much of the success of a garden is in the hard work that others don't see—the time, dedication, and care thoughtfully given each and every day. It's a principle Harvey knows well as she has shared her love of French with her students and watched them grow and bloom into careers and lives of their own, enriched by the knowledge of a second language.

For Harvey, a member of the University faculty for more than three decades and recipient of the Clifford J. Robson Memorial Award for Excellence in Teaching, one of her greatest pleasures is in working with and mentoring her students in the Department of French and German Studies. "I love engaging students and discussing ideas," she says. "Communicating that love of French language, literature, and culture is tremendously rewarding to me," says Harvey.

As a French examiner for high school International Baccalaureate programs in Winnipeg, and as an adjudicator for French Speech Arts throughout Manitoba and northwestern Ontario, Harvey has also had a hand in honing the language skills of many high school students. "I really enjoyed that contact with very young students who are learning to master a second language and who are learning something about themselves as well," says Harvey.

**Andrea Hutchinson '03 (Associate Alumna)**, a former University of Winnipeg student and research assistant to Harvey, confirms the professor's devotion to her profession, and to her students. "She is always very interested in how her students are doing and very proud when you do well," says Hutchinson.

**Estelle Lamoureux '85 '87** attended The University of Winnipeg as a mature student. For her, Harvey was one of her biggest influences and greatest supporters. "She expects a lot of you," says Lamoureux. "It makes you work harder, and it makes you want to do better." Now a principal at a Winnipeg high school, Lamoureux and Harvey maintain a strong connection to this day.

Harvey, who grew up in Scotland and Northern England, says a year in France before starting her university studies at the University of Edinburgh was the catalyst for her focus on French as an educator. "I fell in love with France, its language, its literature," she says.

Her passion for French grew to include the literature of Canadian francophones when she came to Manitoba and began reading Gabrielle Roy. "I don't think anybody describes Manitoba—its plains, the prairie, the skies—better," she says. "She put this province on the literary map in terms of French-Canadian literature."

When she came to The University of Winnipeg in 1970, she first taught 20th-century French literature; later, she pioneered courses in medieval literature. During her tenure, she has also launched courses in translation, phonetics, linguistics, history of the French language, business French, women's literature through the centuries, and women in 20th century French literature. Harvey also launched the University's Third Year Abroad Program at the University of Perpignan in the south of France, whereby students gain academic experience in a wholly French environment.

The list of organizations that count Carol Harvey as a supporter is a long one. She is not only a long-serving member of the University's Board of Regents, but is President of the Canadian Society of Medievalists, a member of the International Courtly Literature Society, and a longstanding Board member for the Centre d'études franco-canadiennes de l'Ouest. "That's a very important connection for me because it puts me in touch with the intellectual, academic, and artistic worlds of the Franco-Manitoban community," says Harvey. That commitment to homegrown French literature and her fondness for the writing of Gabrielle Roy led to her link with the Maison Gabrielle Roy, an organization responsible for the restoration and refurbishment of the St. Boniface house where Roy was born. As strongly committed to the international French community as the local one, Harvey has been a member of the Alliance Française since her student days at the University of Edinburgh, having lectured there on many topics and serving as President and Vice-President of the organization.

Harvey has nurtured the growth of the French department, cultivated strong connections at home and abroad, and is now watching the results of her labours bear fruit in the lives of her students. "It has been extremely gratifying," says Harvey. "It makes you feel you've accomplished what you set out to do as a teacher." 

*As part of its "Profs with a Passion" series, the Alumni Association will host a tour of the house of Gabrielle Roy, conducted by Professor Carol Harvey. Please visit the alumni website for details at [www.uwinnipeg.ca/web/alumni](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/web/alumni)*



*It's great  
to be home*

TEXT: Annette Elvers '93 PHOTO: grajewski.fotograph

*“I’ve dreamed big,  
I’ve learned lots,  
and always built legacies.”*

**E**arning only \$85 a week at the United College Library, **Susan Thompson ’71** knew she wouldn’t be a circulation clerk forever.

What she didn’t know was that stepping through the doors of what came to be known as The University of Winnipeg would be the start of a relationship that would last a lifetime. At the age of 19 Thompson didn’t have a university degree or even a high school diploma—she had left St. James Collegiate without a completed high school education. What she did have was a job at United College, and an interview for an even better one at Eaton’s.

“With retail in my blood, I thought I was a shoo-in,” said Thompson. “But the interviewer looked at my résumé and told me that they only hire university graduates. I understood—clearly and painfully—that I could be prevented from realizing my dreams.”

Collegiate instructor **Evelyn Mills (Fellow of United College ’73)** and professors like **John Conroy** and **Charles Newcombe** encouraged her to complete her high school diploma. It didn’t take long to make up her mind; she enrolled at The Collegiate. “I began to love learning,” says Thompson. “I graduated from The Collegiate in 1967 and from The University of Winnipeg in 1971 and I’ve been learning ever since.”

She went back to Eaton’s, diploma and degree complete. This time, she got the job as a buyer hands-down. And Eaton’s was just the beginning. She purchased her family’s business, Birt Saddlery, served two consecutive terms as Winnipeg’s mayor, and later served her country as Consul General of Canada in Minneapolis. On March 18, when University of Winnipeg Board of Regents Chair **Richard Graydon ’79** announced the establishment of The University of Winnipeg Foundation, Thompson was introduced as its CEO. In a fitting tribute to her alma mater, Thompson greeted the crowd with an enthusiastic, “It’s great to be home!”

The Foundation’s open-door policy was christened with a welcoming Open House on April 1, and Thompson has kept encouraging visitors to come back to share their ideas. “It’s going to take all of us working together,” says Thompson, who is committed to a teamwork approach that includes the University community, alumni, and students.

“I’ve dreamed big, I’ve learned lots, and always built legacies,” adds Thompson. “Now I will be helping to build a most extraordinary and lasting legacy for The University of Winnipeg. It’s so good to be back.” 

## THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG FOUNDATION

The Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation and registered charity dedicated to fundraising and asset stewardship in support of the University’s mission and vision. The Foundation fosters the commitments that will enable the University to better meet the needs and inspire the dreams of students, creating limitless possibilities for the future.

### THE PRIMARY GOALS OF THE FOUNDATION ARE:

- to increase funding for student scholarships and bursaries
- to raise revenue for a capital development campaign, and
- to enhance the Library, University, and Collegiate programs, facilities, equipment, and technology

For more information about the Foundation, visit [www.uwinnipegfoundation.ca](http://www.uwinnipegfoundation.ca)

# CLASS ACTS

TEXT: Betsy Van der Graaf

## 1930s

'35 **Ruth Reade** has retired to Pittsburgh, Penn. after many years as a teacher and principal at the American Academy in Nicosia, Cyprus.



On May 14, 2003 the **Class of '43** held their 60th Anniversary Luncheon. In the back row, from left to right, are Ruth (Barber) Murrell, Grace (Lund) McConkey, Lorne Grainger, Audrey Fridfinnson; in the front row, left to right: Peggy (Baragar) Sanders, Margaret (Reid) Howey, and Esther (Davidson) Sanders.

## 1940s

'46 **Mona (Werier) Liebling** lives in California where she volunteers twice a week at a local elementary school. Mona has five children and 11 grandchildren.

'48 **Gordon Pilkey** was appointed director for the 2003/2004 Board of the Manitoba Criminal Justice Association.



Members of United College's **Class of '53** pose next to a portrait of their favourite professor, Dr. Graham. The class celebrated their 50th reunion at The University of Winnipeg's Faculty and Staff Club on September 20, 2003.

## 1950s

'50 **Hugh Savage** is professor emeritus in Educational Psychology at the University of Saskatchewan. He writes of his sadness at the passing of classmates Carl Ridd and Cyril Whitaker.

'54 **Iris Maurstad** became a director with the Manitoba Wildlife Rehabilitation Organization.

## 1960s

'65 **Gary McEwen** retired after 26 years at Manitoba Education and Training. In July he began a new career as an assistant professor in the faculty of education at Nipissing University, North Bay, Ont.

'65 **Dee Dee (Ross) Rizzo** was elected 2003 president of the Retired Teachers' Association of Manitoba.

'67, '92 **LLD Michael Phelps** became chair of a committee created by the federal government to explore reform of Canada's securities regulation system.

'68 **Linda Lee** became the vice president for the 2003/2004 board of the Manitoba Criminal Justice Association. Linda also recently became the education and accreditation chairperson for the International Association of Business Communicators - Manitoba Chapter.

'68 **Harry Nelken** and '86 **Chris Sigurdson** performed in the Rainbow Stage production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*. Harry played the lead role of Joseph.

'69 **Wayne Everett** is one of the founders of The Castaway Group, a company specializing in customer relationship management, consulting and system implementation.

## 1970s

'70, '95 **LLD Fred Penner** won a Juno award in April this year for his children's album *Sing with Fred*.

'72 **Elizabeth Bonnett** is the new treasurer for the 2003/2004 Manitoba Association for Art Education's board of directors.

'73 **J. Scott Kennedy** is a lawyer at the Monk Goodwin law firm in Winnipeg.

'73 **Neil Little** is a business consultant to the CFMA in Pincher Creek, Alta.

'74 **Wayne Bollman** was appointed president of the Manitoba Home Builders Association.

'74 **Richard Kunzelman** received a Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal, recognizing his achievements as corresponding secretary to the Intrepid Society, Inc., and chaplain to the Royal Commonwealth Society (Manitoba Branch).

'74 **Gordon Neufeld** lives in Hamilton, Ont. and is president of Direct Outcomes, his own consulting firm that creates and communicates unique experiences for customers and clients.

'75 **Linda Lee** was elected president of the Volunteer Centre of Winnipeg's 2003-2004 board of directors. At the June 2003 Canadian Evaluation Society's national conference held in Vancouver, Linda received the "Service to the Canadian Evaluation Society" award.

'75 **Michael Panchuk** is a vocational rehabilitation consultant with the B.C. Workers Compensation Board in Terrace, B.C. He earned a B.Ed. in 1976 and completed a master of education in 2000.

'75 **Timothy Preston** was appointed to the provincial bench of Manitoba. Judge Preston, a founding member of the Gay and Lesbian Lawyers Association, has 21 years of litigation experience, specializing in criminal law.

'76 **Norman Lee** is the new secondary education advisor to the board of the Canadian Information Processing Society for 2003/2004.

'76 **Gregg Shilliday**, Associate Alumnus, was nominated for the Arthur Ellis Award for Crime Fiction (best first novel) for his espionage thriller *Work of Idle Hands*, written under his pen name, Jonathon Platz.

'77 **Jim Derksen** was honoured at the Manitoba Access Awareness Achievement Awards this year for his work over the past three decades as an activist for the disabled. Jim is executive director of the province's new disabilities issues office.

'77 **Virginia (Henning) Durksen** is a freelance writer and editor. Her company, Visible Ink, offers two-day business writing workshops for government and industry throughout western Canada.

'77 **Alan Levy** recently graduated from Osgoode Hall with a master of law in alternative dispute resolution. Alan also has a master's degree in industrial relations and received the Morley Gunderson Prize for Professional Excellence from the Centre for Industrial Relations at the University of Toronto. Alan is currently teaching alternative dispute resolution at the U of T and labour relations, negotiations, and conflict management at the John Molson School of Business at Concordia University. His many years of experience in management with emphasis on employee/labour relations, conflict management and organizational design have led him to establish a successful consulting business, ADL Consulting.

'77 **Marie-Hélène Prescott** is a social worker with the city of Edmonton, Alta.

'78 **Gary Hawkes** works for the Foreign Service at Citizenship and Immigration Canada in Ottawa, Ont.

'78 **Patrick M. Keating** is executive vice-president of Assante Corporation. Patrick received the 2002 Pinnacle Award of the Certified General Accountants Association of Manitoba, recognizing his outstanding career achievement.

'78, '79 **Ken Porteous** is head of interpretation for Manitoba Conservation in the provincial parks area.

## 1980s

In the last *Alumni Journal*, we reported that '85 **Andrew Stelmack** resigned from



*The Lion King*. In fact, he has re-signed with the Princess of Wales Theatre in Toronto and is continuing in his role as principal lead with Disney's *The Lion King*.

Andrew has been in the show since December 2000 and will continue until 2004. Our apologies for this error.

'80 **Wayne Fife** was appointed department head of anthropology at Memorial University of Newfoundland. Wayne has

just completed a book entitled *Ethnographic Methods for Critical Educational Research in Developing Countries*, partially based upon field research in Papua, New Guinea. He is currently conducting research about nature tourism on the Great Northern Peninsula of Newfoundland.

'80 **Harvey Thorleifson** was appointed professor at the University of Minnesota, Minnesota State Geologist, and director of the Minnesota Geological Survey. Harvey was employed by the Geological Survey of Canada in Ottawa from 1986 until his appointment in Minnesota last July. One of his specialties is the science and history of diamond exploration in Canada.

'81 **Luella Lee** is director of human resources for Deer Lodge Health Centre in Winnipeg, Man.

'82 **Sandra McKnight** has become the newsletter director for the 2003/2004 board of the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba.

'82 **Darren Praznik** was appointed executive director of government relations with Canadian Blood Services in Ottawa, Ont.

'82 **Laura Simmons** was elected 2003-2004 president of the Human Resource Management Association of Manitoba, Inc.

'82 **Murray Thompson** was appointed to the bench in Thompson, Manitoba as a provincial court judge. Murray is deeply committed to the North and is very active in the Thompson community.

'83 **Laura Wilson** is an adoption social worker with Winnipeg Child and Family Services. Laura has a seven-year-old son, Noah.

'84 **Jacqueline Cassel-Vernon** is a customer support representative with Canadian National Railways. Jacqueline and her spouse Robert have two children—Southernly and Peter.

'84 **Stuart Duncan** was appointed chief executive officer of Destination Winnipeg, which was created by the merger of Economic Development Winnipeg and Tourism Winnipeg.

'85 **David Bergen** received a major arts grant from the Manitoba Arts Council. David is currently working on his next novel, the story of a young man and woman looking for their father, a Vietnam War veteran who settled in Canada.

## ALUMNI OF DISTINCTION

### THE ORDER OF CANADA

The Order of Canada was established in 1967 to recognize outstanding achievement and service in various fields of human endeavour. It is our country's highest honour of distinction. In 2003, '47, DD '86 **Lois Wilson CC, O.Ont.** became a Companion in the Order of Canada. '61, '98 **LLD Lloyd Axworthy PC, OC, OM** was invested as an Officer in the Order of Canada.

### THE ORDER OF MANITOBA

The Order of Manitoba is the highest honour offered by the Province of Manitoba. It recognizes outstanding individuals benefiting the social, cultural, or economic well being of Manitoba and its residents. Twelve new members were inducted in 2003, including the following alumni: '59 **Waldron Fox-Decent**, '69 **LLD Wesley Lorimer**, and '70 **LLD Clarence Tillenius**.

'85 **Jay McDonald** is the program director for the 2003/2004 board of the Canadian Information Processing Society.

'85 **Kevin Lee Patterson**, Associate Alumnus, lives on Salt Spring Island, B.C. with his daughter, Molly. Kevin is an internist in Rankin Inlet, N.W.T., and has a practice in Nanaimo, B.C. He has recently written a collection of stories, *Country of Cold*, published by Random House Canada.

'87 **Melanie D'Souza** is the director of advocacy for the Manitoba Child Care Association.

'87 **Gabriela Sparling** is assistant deputy minister, intergovernmental relations and strategic planning, with the provincial government of the North West Territories.

'87 **Paul Ho Chi Wong** is the deputy general manager in personnel and administration for Guardian Property Management Ltd. in Shatin, Hong Kong.

'88 **Hanadie Chebib** is the coordinator for educational marketing and promotions at the Ontario Science Centre, Education Branch.

## UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG ALUMS AT THE 2003 FRINGE FESTIVAL

*Each year, talented University of Winnipeg alumni strut their stuff at Winnipeg's annual Fringe Festival. This year's participants included:*

'70 Glen Mitchell, '74 Collegiate Harvey Meller, '84 Ellen Peterson, '87 Associate Alumnus Patrick Lowe, '88 Carolyn Gray, '90 Warren Persowich, '91 Johanna Stein, '93 Kevin Longfield, '94 Christopher Cordray, '95 Jana Rubin, '95 Michael Seccombe, '96 Esther Hazendonk, '98 Matt Kippen, '99 Stacy Claven, '00 Jolene Baillie, '00 Rose Condo, '00 Grahame Merke, '01 Coral Aiken, '01 Maggie Buttrum, '01 Justin Deeley, '01 Ashleigh Deeley, '01 Sherry Phillips, '02 Trevor Boris, '02 Andrea Shawcross

'88 **Jacqueline Vadis Brookes** is a business development officer for the small enterprise development unit of the Nevis Island Government in the West Indies, and is host of a television program called *Minding Your Business*.

'88 **Jane Olshewski** works for The Investors Group, and has been appointed to the volunteer board of the Manitoba Children's Museum for its 2003/2004 Capital Campaign.

'88 **Mary J. Shariff** is a member of the business law department at Aikins, MacAulay and Thorvaldson, practising in the area of taxation law.

'88 **Wesley Tretiak** is the treasurer for The Manitoba Wildlife Rehabilitation Organization.

'88 **Kipp Tyler** and '97 **Hartley Pokrant** were among those government employees honoured with the 2003 Manitoba Service Excellence Award, as part of the Manitoba Land Initiative Team. Their award in the innovation category recognizes outstanding effort and achievement in improving programs and services for Manitoba and their communities, as part of the Manitoba Land Initiative Team.

'88 **Heinrich Walde** lives in Brussels, Belgium, where he is director of FORUMBrussels, an organization that holds seminars, forums, and symposia on European political issues and topics, co-organized by the Parliament of the European Union.

'89 **Avrom Charach** is director of finance at Kay Four Properties Inc. in Winnipeg Man.

'89 **Raj Talasi** and '90 **Evelyn Koh** live in B.C., where Evelyn is a lecturer at Coquitlam College and Raj is the district manager for a financial institution. They have a son, Etienne.

'89 **Lesley Walters-Sagher** was appointed assistant compliance manager at Wellington West Capital Inc. in Winnipeg, Man.

'89 **Hon Min Yap** is actuarial manager at General Insurance Association of Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur.

### 1990s

'90 **DCE Rosemary Barney** is an educational assistant with the Portage la Prairie School Division in Portage la Prairie, Man.

'90 **Jennifer (Smith) Lafreniere** and her husband moved to Manila, Philippines in 1999, after the birth of their son, Nicolas. Their second son, Luc, was born in Manila in 2001.

'90, '96 **DCE Danielle (Dryden) Savage** is director of communications at the Children's Hospital Foundation in Winnipeg. Danielle is married to Kieran Savage.

'90 **Ann Schultz** attained the designation of Certified Professional Purchaser this year and is employed by CN Rail.

'90 **Lori Shoemaker** is in the second year of the Neuroscience Interdepartmental PhD program in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA). Her studies involve using mass spectrometry for the study of differential membrane protein expression in neural stem and progenitor cells.

'90 **Larry Wandowich** is the general manager of the McPhillips Street Station Casino in Winnipeg, Man.

'91, '98 **DCE, Karen Keppler** is the corporate sponsorship director for the Canadian Information Processing Society.

'91 **Jocelyne Prefontaine** is vice president of the Canadian Information Processing Society.

'91, '00 **Vince Stoneman** was appointed director of the program for the education of native teachers (PENT), at Brandon University's Faculty of Education.

'92 **Angela Falk** became a new director for the 2003/04 Manitoba Criminal Justice Association's board of directors.

'92 **DCE Anne-Marie Glesmann** was a member of the 2003 graduating class of the Canadian Institute of Management, attaining a 4-year certificate in management and administration. Anne-Marie is an administrative coordinator at Manitoba Egg Producers.

'92, '93 **Tanya Peckmann** is an assistant professor of anthropology at St. Mary's University.

'92 **Clinton Sahulka** has joined the Stevenson Real Estate Group, responsible for coordinating and managing the site procurement for national and local retail clients.

'93 **David Borowski** was appointed marketing chair for the 2003-04 board of the International Association of Business Communicators, Manitoba Chapter.

'93 **Rossana Buonpensiere** joined the management consulting firm of Meyers Norris Penny. Her expertise is in human resource management, organizational development, and change management.

'93 **Nicole Lanthier** is employed as a clinical audiologist and professional practice leader at the University Hospital in London, Ont. She has recently been appointed as a lecturer in the faculty of medicine, department of otolaryngology at the University of Western Ontario.

'93 **Ashok Modha** is currently doing a Neuro-Oncology Neurosurgery fellowship at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York City.

'93 **Jerry Murugan** graduated in electrical engineering in 1999 at the University of Manitoba. Jerry lives in Texas where he is senior engineering consultant with Dell Computer Corporation in signal integrity engineering. He is a lifetime member of the Strathmore's *Who's Who*, and a referee for the Institute of Physics Publishing, UK.

'94 **Garth Buchholz** is corporate web manager for the City of Winnipeg. In this role he is responsible for the strategy and development of the city's website. Garth continues to be a journalist at the *Winnipeg Free Press* and is an active member of the Internet Press Guild.

'94 **Jason Clemis** is a GIS database administrator with the Forsyth County Government in Cumming, Georgia.

'94 **David Kendall** owns and operates a small business, Home Pages Plus!, a company specializing in internet solutions for small businesses and home offices.

'94 **Tracy Maconachie** is the past president of The Manitoba Wildlife Rehabilitation Organization's 2003/04 board of directors.

'94 **Cheryl Zubrack** is a newsletter co-editor for the board of The Manitoba Association for Art Education.

'95 **Noel Atkinson** is a research analyst with Emerging Growth Equities, Ltd. in Blue Bell Pennsylvania. Noel married Jaclyn Tapper in Winnipeg on August 10, 2002.

'95 **Ruby Dhalla**, a chiropractor and organizer for the Liberal Party of Canada, is concentrating on her acting career these days. Ruby is the star of an Ontario-produced film titled *Kyon? Kis Liye? (Why? And for Whom?)*, a Hindi-language film produced and shot in Hamilton, Ont. and targeted at Asian audiences.

'95 **Glori Ann Moscovitch** is teaching in Jonquiere, Quebec, where she met her fiancé.

'95 **Vance Woodward** is an associate with the law firm Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton, and Garrison LLP in New York. Vance graduated in 2001 with a law degree and a master of business administration from York University.

'96 **Roger Bailey** obtained a bachelor of science in civil engineering and is a registered professional engineer in both Florida and Georgia. Currently, Roger is the utilities director for Glendale, Arizona.

'96 **Krista Boryskavich** joined the law firm, Aikins MacAulay & Thorvaldson, and is practising in corporate and commercial law.

'96 **David Gamble** is director of sales and marketing at IMW Industries in B.C. David married Mary Chin on September 6, 2003.

'96 **Kimberley Grueneich** is a customer research coordinator with the NorthWest Company in Winnipeg. Kimberley credits the Administrative Studies Program at The University of Winnipeg with her career success.

'96 **Deane Lam** is the division head of network management for the Macau Telecommunication Company in China. She is working on a project to merge all network operation and maintenance centres.

'96 **Joelle Martens** received a 4-year certificate in management and administration from the Canadian Institute of Management in 2003. Joelle is employed with Human Resources Development Canada.

'97 **Gary Kuchar** is presently a SSHRC Post-Doctoral Fellow at the University of Maryland. He begins a tenure track position in the department of English at the University of Victoria in 2004. His PhD dissertation was recently selected by the Canadian Association of Graduate Studies as a distinguished dissertation in Fine Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, 2003.

'98 **Donna Alexander** received the 2003 Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba School Classroom Teacher Award. She teaches at Balmoral Hall, a private girls' school in Winnipeg, Man.

'98 **Norma Buchan** is vice-president of the Provincial Council of Women in Manitoba.

'98 **Jennifer Malabar** was a member of the law student team from the University of Manitoba that won the Sopinka Cup Trial Moot competition in Ottawa, Ont.

'98 **Bonnie Jean Van Steelandt** was inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma, the international honour society recognizing the outstanding academic achievements of students enrolled in a business school accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Bonnie is a student at the Asper School of Business, Faculty of Management, at the University of Manitoba.

'98 **Richard Tapper** is a chiropractor, running a free chiropractic service for homeless and low-income persons. As well, Richard is the official chiropractor for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers cheerleading squad, as well as all visiting CFL teams.

'98 **Erin Wilcott** is a member of the law firm, Aikins, MacAulay & Thorvaldson, practising in the litigation department in Winnipeg, Man.

'99 **Kelly Beattie** graduated from the University of Manitoba with an LLB in 2002, was called to the bar this year, and is now practising with Fillmore Riley.

'99 **Zoey Michele** is completing a doctorate in Sociology at Queen's University. She recently contributed a chapter to Annette Burfoot and Susan Lord's *Killing Women: The Visual Culture of Gender and Violence*, to be published by University of Wilfrid Laurier Press. This winter, Zoey will be teaching a course on the sociology of science and technology at Queen's University.

'99 **Ryan Savage** completed an LLB at the University of Manitoba in 2002 and is articling at Taylor McCaffrey in Winnipeg, Man.

## 2000s

'00 **Julie Skafffeld** is director of Public Education for the Manitoba Child Care Association.

'00 **Sandra Waddle** is completing a master's degree in School Psychology at the University of British Columbia.

'01 **DCE Shauna Crognali** is past president of the 2003-04 board of directors of the International Association of Business Communicators, Manitoba Chapter.

'02 **DCE Marcelo Hinojosa** is a 2003 graduate of the Canadian Institute of Management's 4-year certificate program in management and administration. Marcelo is employed at Buhler Manufacturing.

'02 **D.Litt. Wanda Koop** received a major arts grant from the Manitoba Arts Council this year. Wanda will be working on six large-scale drawings for her next installation.

# IN MEMORIAM

*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 alumni.*

**Baker, Ralph BA '75**

**Berry, Virginia D.Litt. '87** on March 22, 2003 at Victoria, B.C.  
(Visit [www.uwinnipeg.ca/web/alumi](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/web/alumi) to read more.)

**Binding, Frederick R.S. BA '59** on August 3, 2003 at Cape Chin, Ont.

**Birbeck, Bernard BA '50**

**Bray (McEown), Betty BA '40** on November 28, 2002 at Surrey, B.C.

**Buggey, Ruth BA '33** on January 5, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Buchanan (Bruce), Winifred BA '26** on May 29, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Clark, Roy R. BA '92** on March 4, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Cook (Wardrop), M. Elaine BA '37** on March 19, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Cronmiller (Weber), Wilda BA '36** on June 24, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Czarnecki, Luke BA '00** on February 5, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Demanjew, Theresa BA '84** on March 10, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Dudeck, Gerald Sydney, Associate Alumnus '66** on March 18, 2002 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Flood, Audrey**, Associate Professor on September 1, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.  
(See page 7 of the *Journal*)

**Fraser, D. Wilton T '45** on February 24, 2003 at Neepawa, Man.

**Graham (MacKenzie), Glenys Collegiate '43, BA '46**

**Griffiths, Ronald BA '58** on July 10, 2003 at Toronto, Ont.

**Halma, George Daniel BA '70** on January 27, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Hickling (Bowman), Helen BA '35** on April 21, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Howat, Brenda Louise BA '71** on April 4, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Humphreys (Oland), Ramona BA '42** on January 9, 2002 at Calgary, Alta.

**Issa, Juventine Edwan BA '91** on April 9, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Kanski, Tyson William BA '02** on June 27, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Kidd, Lynroy G. BA '84** in June, 1996 at Georgetown, Cayman Islands.

**Longfield, Raymond John BA '49 B.Ed. '61** on February 10, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Marshall (McCulloch), E. Doris R. BA '31** on January 15, 2003 at Toronto, Ont.

**McKay, Stanley, Sr. DSL '81** on May 24, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**McNally, Fred W. BA '48, T '51, BD '55** on January 3, 2003 at Vancouver, B.C.

**McWilliams, John BA '37** on June 28, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Menzies, Grace Elizabeth BA '57, B.Ed. '57** on January 29, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Nowosad, Walter BA '50, B.Ed. '59** on March 2, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Owen, Elena BA '37, B.Ed. '63** on August 4, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Permanand, Deonarine BA '70**

**Putnam, Stephen G. Collegiate '42, BA '52**, on July 26, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Rasmussen, Barry Grant BA '77, MST '94**, January 2003 at Teulon, Man.

**Shadlock, John Michael BA '72** on January 29, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Shields, Carol Ann CC, OM, DLitt '96** on July 16, 2003 at Victoria, B.C.  
(See page 4 of the *Journal*)

**Siddall, Peter Douglas BA '79** on July 20, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Smook (Thompson), Janet Lori B.Ed. '79** on May 17, 2003 at Vita, Man.

**Snidal, Jane** Associate Professor and Chair of Economics on September 12, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man. (See p. 7 of the *Journal*)

**Sures, Richard, Associate Alumnus '49** on March 29, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Swainson, Clarence T. BA '54, B.Ed. '58** on May 4, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Tiwari, Rudra S.S. B.Sc. '84** on April 4, 2003 at Guelph, Ont.

**Vatcher (Craig), Margaret BA '35**

**Vincent (McLeod), Jean Edith BA '35** on February 13, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

**Wish, Mercel Andrew BA '49** on March 11, 2003 at Kelowna, B.C.

**Woodall (Parkinson), Donna Elaine BA '50** at Oshawa, Ont.

**Zborowsky, William B.Ed. '80** on June 8, 2003 at Winnipeg, Man.

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