

# ARTS MATTERS

FACULTY OF ARTS / THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG / APRIL 2012

## Community

Urban and Inner-City Studies is located on Selkirk Avenue, in the community it serves. According to the Chair, Dr. Jim Silver, the feedback they are getting is that “students like that we’re in the neighborhood, that we’re small and it’s personal. You come in and there’s coffee and a common room space with comfortable furniture and access to computers.”

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

While the department welcomes students with traditional educational backgrounds, the faculty and staff are dedicated to working with individuals who may not even have imagined working toward a university certificate or degree.

Students in the department’s Ma Mawi Program and Beginning University Successfully Program are starting to achieve success (see below middle and right).

Jim explains that students meet and work with Claudette Michell, the Program Coordinator, and, in her,

Continued on page 2



## Creativity

Self-expression is central to who we are. In the Faculty of Arts, a number of our faculty and students are engaged in creative works that include poetry, novels, short stories, plays, film scripts and stage productions. These works bring a new audience to the University and strengthen our connection to the community.

The Department of Theatre and Film’s production of Howard Barker’s play, “The Possibilities,” which ran from Feb. 7-10, 2012 is just such an example of why creativity matters.

For more on “The Possibilities,” see page 2.



**UIC STUDIES FACULTY AND STAFF**  
From left: Shannon Bean, Office Asst; Judith Harris, Faculty Advisor; Claudette Michell, Program Coordinator; Jim Silver, Chair



**TANIS WHITFORD**, Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre staff member/UIC Studies student having attained the 30-credit hour Certificate in Urban and Inner-City Studies



**GRADUATES OF THE BEGINNING UNIVERSITY SUCCESSFULLY (BUS) PROGRAM** From left: Linda Beady, Karen Linklater, Claude Michell, Andrea Guimond

## TAKING A HARD LOOK AT WAR . . .

by **Tim Babcock**

THFM Department Chair

Howard Barker's play takes a hard look at how the absurdities of war affect the people caught in the midst of it. The play unfolds through a series of historical, contemporary and fictional conflicts, each of which comprises its own perspective on the human response to the savagery, waste and overpowering futility of war.

While the subject matter is hard and the play takes us on a rough tour which highlights some of the best and worst in individuals, it offered a wonderfully contemporary challenge for our students. The various scenes also provided ample opportunity to explore characters set in a context for which most Canadians have little personal experience but still hunkers just beneath the headlines which haunt our daily consciousness.

## MORE "POSSIBILITIES"



*Nathan Costa seated at table  
in photo to left.*



*Soldier is Kevin P. Gabel. Kaleigh  
Ayre is standing behind him.*

As the final production for 2011-12, the Department of Theatre and Film presented "Our Country's Good" by Timberlake Wertenbaker, March 27-31, 2012.

For more information about Theatre and Film, visit our departmental website at <http://theatre.uwinnipeg.ca>.

## COMMUNITY (CONT'D FROM PAGE 1)

find someone with whom they feel comfortable and trust. Claudette is able to share her own story of being an adult learner and of her life being changed in the past ten years, thanks to the University.

Claudette works on a one-to-one basis with students, but much of her time is spent going out into the community, (i.e., women's resource centres, high schools and adult learning centres) and letting others know about the opportunities that are available. In all, she went to 50 such places last year.

### PARTNERSHIPS WITH THE COMMUNITY

The FrontStep Research Co-op (see photo below) is an example of the types of partnerships that UIC Studies maintains with the community. This



From left: Andrew Moreau, Fail Dechateauvert, Judith Harris, Virginia Hunter, Terri Proulx, Judy Hunter

service cooperative employs inner-city residents to conduct peer-to-peer research.

### FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Urban and Inner-City Studies has been growing steadily. The faculty and staff are enthusiastic about the potential for further growth with recent approval from Senate to become a department and plans to eventually implement an M.A.

### FIND OUT MORE

To learn more about the department and its programs, please go to the UIC Studies website: <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/urban-inner-city-studies-index>



## SOME FAMOUS ARTS GRADS YOU MIGHT HAVE HEARD OF . . .

**Emma Watson:** English/  
History

**Tina Keeper:** Theatre/  
History

**Rev. Martin Luther  
King:** Sociology

**Jack Layton:** Political  
Science

**Barack Obama:** Political  
Science

**Michelle Obama:**  
Sociology

**Matt Groening:**  
Philosophy

**J. K. Rowling:** French/  
Classics

**Lance Armstrong:**  
Language Studies

## True/False

1. Arts graduates don't do as well in the workforce as graduates with more applied or practical degrees.
2. The new digital age is only for scientists and engineers.
3. Employers prefer technical skills in employees.

*Read column to the right to  
find out how you did!*

## We were there: Open House 2012



THE FACULTY OF ARTS WAS WELL REPRESENTED. THANKS TO ALL OUR FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENTS WHO TOOK PART!

## WHY STUDY ARTS?

There was a great turnout at Open House 2012 on Wednesday, February 22, 2012. At the Arts booth, we had interesting conversations with many prospective students and their parents about the value of an Arts degree. It was reassuring to meet many who already understood that choosing Arts is a good decision. Indeed, a number of students already knew that Arts at the University of Winnipeg was for them this fall!

Acting Dean Glenn Moulaison gave a presentation to about 60 students entitled "Why Study Arts". He assured students that Arts graduates do AS WELL IF

NOT BETTER than graduates of more "practical" disciplines, especially over the length of a career.

Research shows that employers want the types of skills taught in Arts: "the ability to communicate with people of other cultures, disciplines" (Anne Sado, President of George Brown College).

As for the new digital age being only for scientists and engineers, note that Larry Sanger (Wikipedia), Mark Zuckerberg (Facebook), Michael Everson (Unicode), or Michael Sperberg-McQueen (XML) all specialized or were interested in Classics, Philosophy, Celtic Studies and Comparative Literature at university.

Dr. Moulaison ended by listing several notable individuals, all of whom hold Arts degrees (see above left) and asking if the better question isn't "Why not Arts?"

# Arts news and events

## Here's a look at some of the events that took place in March!

### March 1, 2012

Carol Shields Writer-in-Residence  
Distinguished Lecture: Debbie Patterson, the 2012 Carol Shields, Writer-in-Residence (English)

Dr. Julie Tomiak: "Rethinking the Right to the City: Urban Indigenous Community-Building and Nation-Building in Neoliberal Times" (Urban and Inner-City Studies)

### March 2, 2012

Dr. Carlos Colorado (Religion and Culture): "The Catholic Roots of Charles Taylor's Pluralism" (Politics/Religion and Culture)

### March 7, 2012

Anne Szumigalski Memorial Lecture with the Griffin Prize winning poet, Anne Simpson (English)

### March 8, 2012

Dr. Naomi Nichols: "The Edge Effect: Creating Conditions for Engaged Scholarship" (Urban and Inner-City Studies)

### March 9, 2012

Meet and Greet with Liberal Leader, Bob Rae (Politics)

Dr. Tracey Whalen (Rhetoric, Writing, and Communications): "Je t'aime, Papa: Theatricality and Rhetoric's

Fifth Canon in Justin Trudeau's Eulogy for his Father, Pierre Elliot Trudeau" (Politics)

### March 14, 2012

Dr. Ken Fish (Sociology): "Separation Anxiety: The Human Nature of Environmental Problems" (Sociology)

Chris Hadley and Allison Loat, IATSE Members: "IATSE for Beginners" (Theatre and Film)

### March 16, 2012

Dr. Chris Leo (Politics): "Everyone talks about urban sprawl, but what do they do about it?" (Politics)

### March 22, 2012

Dr. Mary Jane McCallum (History): "Manitoba First Nations Tuberculosis History: 1940-1965" (MDP Program)

Dr. Clayborne Carson, Stanford University: "King and the Global Freedom Struggle" (History)

Dr. Pauline Greenhill (Women's and Gender Studies): "That's Not Folklore! (A)Musings on Art and Tradition" AND Dr. Mavis Reimer (English): "No Place Like Home: Some Thoughts about Unhoming in Contemporary Culture." Presentations as part of a panel discussion associated with the art exhibit: "Chris Reid: I like to believe I'm telling the truth"

### March 23, 2012

Dr. Tolly Bradford, University of

Manitoba: "Prophetic Identities: Indigenous Missionaries on British Colonial Frontier, 1850 - 1875" (Indigenous Studies/Anthropology)

Prof. Kelly Gorkoff (Criminal Justice): "The Corporatization of The University"; Dr. Richard Jochelson (Criminal Justice): "Freedom of Expression in The University: Pridgen v. University of Calgary (2010)"; Dr. Kirsten Kramar (Sociology): "Judicial Review and University Governance: Lukacs v. University of Manitoba" (Sociology)

### March 27-31, 2012

"Our Country's Good" by Timberlake Wertenbaker (Theatre and Film)

### March 28, 2012

Dr. Barry Edginton: "Acid in the Architecture: A Case Study in the Phenomenology of Design" (Sociology)

## Logo Contest Winner: Larissa Wodtke

Centre for Research in Young People's  
Texts and Cultures

faculty of Arts

We look forward to seeing  
the new logo everywhere!

**ANDY BLICQ: CONSPIRACY RISING**  
ANDY BLICQ IS AN AWARD-WINNING DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKER. CBC RECENTLY FEATURED THE ONE HOUR DOCUMENTARY FILM, CONSPIRACY RISING, THAT HE DIRECTED. THE SHOW AIRED ON THE DOC ZONE AND ON NEWSWORLD.

NOTABLES FROM THE DEPT. OF  
**THEATRE AND FILM**

**AUGUST: OSAGE COUNTY**  
FIVE THEATRE AND FILM ALUMNI APPEARED WITH MARTHA HENRY AND FRANK ADAMSON ON STAGE AT THE MTC WAREHOUSE. THE PRODUCTION ALSO BENEFITED FROM THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF UW ALUMNI, A CURRENT STUDENT AND A FACULTY MEMBER.