

October – December 2008

# President's Report

## to the TRU Board of Governors

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### News

▶ **Dr. Mark Evered to lead University of the Fraser Valley**

TRU vice-president and provost has been named as the new President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of the Fraser Valley will replace current UFV President and Vice-Chancellor Dr. H. A. 'Skip' Bassford in July 2009.

▶ **Premier Gordon Campbell dramatically broke ground for the House of Learning**

TRU Elder Joe Manuel blessed the building site of the project that will provide a significant addition to library and learning space for all students on campus, and also incorporate features and facilities to enhance the learning needs of Aboriginal students.



▶ **WolfPack Volleyball supports Student Food Bank**

The effort by the men's and women's teams at the Nov. 29 games against University of Saskatchewan Huskies brought in nearly 150 pounds of non-perishable food items.

▶ **Dr. Scherf one of six Canadian university presidents in India**

Dr. Kathleen Scherf was in New Delhi addressing issues of post-secondary education as part of a Higher Education Summit sponsored by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and India's Ministry of Human Resource Development.

▶ **TRU ECO and Go Beyond launched Sustainability 101 week**

Student initiatives included a guest speaker, waste audit, buy nothing day and information booths on Student Street promoting sustainable living.

▶ **National Survey of Student Engagement, TRU scores higher than Canadian average in:**

- > 4th Year students scored higher on the Active & Collaborative Learning Scale
- > 1st Year students scored higher on the Student-Faculty Interaction Scale
- > 4th Year students scored higher on the Student-Faculty Interaction Scale
- > 4th Year students scored higher on the Supportive Campus Environment Scale

▶ **The Foundation awarded close to \$2 million to students in 2008/2009**

At the province's largest PSE award reception in November, 610 Students from Kamloops, 100 Mile House, 150 Mile House, Cache Creek, Barriere, Clearwater and many other communities were awarded close to \$600,000.

▶ **The President and Vice-Chancellor led the way**

TRU's two-week campus-wide United Way campaign rose close to \$65,000.

▶ **TRU improves standing in Globe and Mail's annual University Report Card**

As reported in its third appearance in the annual report, TRU scores improved at least a letter grade in 42 out of 90 measures. Strengths in key areas included small class sizes, student interaction with faculty, and the availability of faculty outside of classroom hours, service by library staff and up-to-date technology in classrooms.

## News *(continued)*

### ► **The President's Lecture**

Videographer and traveler Alexandre "Sacha" Trudeau was this fall's guest at the President's Lecture Series held in conjunction with Dr. Roger Barnsley's retirement dinner.

### ► **TRU Foundation kicked-off its annual campaign**

The capacity crowd gathered in the Grand Hall heard a heart wrenching story from Jade Johnson, a second year Bachelor of Science student. Johnson earned \$12,000 for four years of study with a TRU Ambassador Entrance Scholarship.

### ► **Challenging Racism in the Small City**

The Inaugural Dave Barrett Lecture in Child, Family and Community Welfare Featured Dr. Wanda Thomas Bernard's lecture on Challenging Racism

### ► **TRU Cares**

Bookies, along with 21 other national university and college bookstores, have partnered with the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation to raise money to support breast cancer research by selling 'breast aware' t-shirts during the month of October.

### ► **TRU delivers English as a Second Language in Abu Dhabi**

TRU instructors began delivering ESL courses for the Institute of Applied Technology (IAT) at Khalifa University, in the United Arab Emirates on October 5, 2008.

### ► **BC Teachers of English as an Additional Language conference at TRU**

For the first time the BC Association for Teaching English as a Second Language hosted their fall conference in the BC Interior.

### ► **Installation and Convocation**

Dr. Kathleen Scherf was formally installed as the second President and Vice-Chancellor of Thompson Rivers University on Thursday, October 2, 2008.

### ► **Faith in a foreign land builds friendships**

In spiritual kinship with a billion people of the Islamic faith worldwide, more that 120 Muslim students, faculty and staff at Thompson Rivers University observed Ramadan.

### ► **TRU community gets first real look at plans for House of Learning**

As the fourth major building on the Campus Common, the 63,000 square foot, four-storey, House of Learning will complete the circle in the heart of the campus.

### ► **First Steps Program celebrates 20-year anniversary**

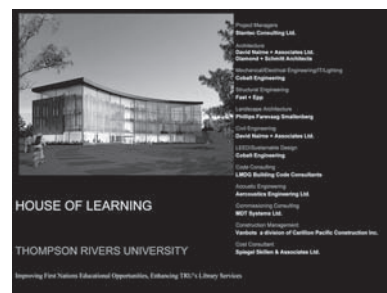
The program, a unique partnership between Interior Community Services, the Boys and Girls Club of Kamloops and School District #73 and Thompson Rivers University has supported hundreds of young, often single, parents strengthen their families by furthering their education.

### ► **At the Gallery**

Thompson Rivers University Art Gallery and the Kamloops Women's Resource Group Society presented, "Untold Stories Project: Beatrice Gregory Morley: I am still here".

### ► **Taking flight with Japanese airline cabin attendant program**

Building on the strong reputation of its School of Tourism and English as a Second Language programs, TRU delivered an intensive semester of training to 21 second-year students from Japan's J. F. Oberlin University.



## Achievements

### ► **Dr. Roger Barnsley**

- > The City of Kamloops – Pioneer Spirit Award
- > Kamloops Chamber of Commerce – President's Award



### ► **Jeanette Murray School of Nursing**

The Canadian Nurses Association recognized Jeanette Murray as one of 100 exceptional registered nurses whose personal and professional contributions have made an outstanding and significant impact on the nursing profession. She received the Centennial Award November 26 in Ottawa.



► **Marisa Azad, 3rd year, BSc student**

Has been named as a Millennium Scholarship Excellence Award Laureate. Marisa will receive a \$5,000 scholarship that is renewable for one additional year upon maintenance of a B+ GPA and continued demonstration of the leadership, innovation and service to the community for which she was student was originally selected.

► **Nancy Twynam, Student Affairs**

Presented her dissertation; A Decision-Making Framework for Student Judicial Affairs for her Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership and Policy from UBC.

► **Melissa Vasey, Journalism student**

Omega news editor and fourth year journalism student was one of seven students in BC awarded with the prestigious Jack Webster's Student Journalism Award.

► **Encore accolades for Accolades**

Accolades, Thompson Rivers University's Culinary Arts dining room, is one of only 70 restaurants across Canada to have been awarded two "stars of excellence" out of a possible three in the new 2008 edition of the national restaurant guide, Where to Eat in Canada.

► **Distinguished Alumni**

- > Sharon Simpson RN – TRU Nursing Faculty '83-'08, Honourary Distinguished Alumni
- > Jo Berry – Bachelor of Social Work, 2000, Grace Chronister TRU BSW Distinguished Alumni Award
- > Dr. Katherine Sutherland, Associate Dean of Arts '81
- > Craig Jones – Open Learning '95
- > Dr. Nikita Vizniak – BSC Animal Biology '98

► **Carla Granberg, IT Services**

A Bachelor of Commerce in Technology Management degree was conferred with distinction by Thompson Rivers University at the 2008 Fall convocation ceremony.

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## Publications

► **Julie Drolet, School of Social Work and Human Service**

Dr. Drolet launched her new book, Women and Micro Credit: Women's Experiences in Cairo, Egypt at the Kamloops Women's Resource Group Society.

► **Tracy Christianson, School of Nursing**

The article "Assessing the Quality of Care in a Regional Integrated Viral Hepatitis Clinic in British Columbia: a cross-sectional study" was accepted for publication in the Gastroenterology Journal of Nursing.

► **Dr. Ron Smith, Visual and Performing Arts**

Saskatchewan (1954); Alias Alberta, was published in Saskatchewan History, Spring Issue, 2008, and Mistaken Images in Serge: Cecil B. DeMille's Northwest Mounted Police (1940), was accepted for publication in 49th Parallel: An Interdisciplinary Journal of North American Studies (Winter 2009).

► **Mila Kwiatkowska, Computing Science and  
Les Matthews, Respiratory Program**

Published the book chapter, "Knowledge-Based Induction of Clinical Prediction Rules," in Data Mining and Medical Knowledge Management: Cases and Applications, IGI Global Inc., in February 2009.

► **Mila Kwiatkowska, Computing Science, along with K. Michalik**

Published conference articles; Evaluation of Efficacy of Continuous Positive Airway Pressure Treatment using Telehealth and Fuzzy-Logic Based Approach. In the Polish language journal, Knowledge Technologies in Public Management '08 Knowledge Conversion.

And with K. Wegrzyn-Wolska, AI Technology in Neuroscience Evidence Base Medicine in the Polish journal Knowledge Technologies in Public Management '08 Knowledge Conversion.

► **Mila Kwiatkowska, Computing Science and  
Leslie Matthews, Respiratory Therapy, along with M. Idzikowski**

Published A Multi-system Model for Interventions in Continuous Positive Airway Pressure Treatment. Proceedings of the International NAFIPS'2008 Conference, May 19–22, New York, US.

► **Michelle Broadway (BSc – Computing Science)**

Published A Fuzzy Logic Approach to Modeling Physical Activity Levels of Obstructive Sleep Apnea Patients. Proceedings of the International NAFIPS'2008 Conference, May 19–22, New York, US.

## Publications *(continued)*

### ► Rick Brewster, Mathematics and Statistics

With G. MacGillivray, and L. Shepherd, The circular chromatic number of hypergraphs, *Discrete Mathematics*. Available online July 2008.

With undergraduate student Timothy Graves, Edge switching homomorphisms of edge-coloured graphs, *Discrete Mathematics*. Available online May 2008.

Co-authored with T. Feder, P. Hell, J. Huang, G. MacGillivray, Near-unanimity functions and varieties of reflexive graphs, *SIAM J. on Discrete Math*, 22 (2008) 938–960.

With P. Hell, R. Rizzi, Oriented star packings, *Journal of Combinatorial Theory, Series B*, 98 (2008) 558–576.

With T. Graves, On the restricted homomorphism problem, *Discrete Applied Mathematics*, 156 (2008).

### ► Ginny Ratsoy, English and Modern Languages

The article, "The Small City as Classroom: Academic Service Learning Participants Reflect", appears in the November, 2008 issue of the peer-reviewed online journal *Transformative Dialogues: Teaching and Learning Journal*.



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## Presentations

### ► Dr. Ron Smith, Visual and Performing Arts

Michael Radford's *1984* (1984): A Visual Homage to Orwell's Earlier Social Commentaries, Film and History Conference at Chicago, Illinois, October 30, 2008.

### ► Donna Petri, School of Nursing

Presented Canadian Nursing Shortage: Strategies for Nursing Education and was invited to sit on an international panel (Thailand, Laos, Vietnam and Canada) to discuss Nursing Education and speak about the Canadian Health Care System at the: NEC Net International Conference: Capacity Building Responsive to the Needs of Health Care Systems, September 3–5, 2008, Khon Kaen, Thailand

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## Appointments

### ► Dr. Tom Owen – Director, Environment and Sustainability

Starting January 1, 2009, Dr. Owen will work closely with the Environmental Advisory Committee and is responsible to develop policy and directives to assist TRU in becoming the University of Choice for Environmental Sustainability.



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## Upcoming Events

### ► McDonald International Invitation Volleyball Tournament

Friday, January 2

7:30pm • Tournament Capital Centre

TRU WolfPack hosts Pepperdine, Budo Japan, TWU, Sherbrooke, QC

### ► Actor's Workshop Theatre

January 8 – 10 and 15 – 17

Reckless, by Craig Lucas and directed by Robin Nichol.

For more information: 250.377.6100

### ► TRU Senate Meeting

Monday January 26

4:30pm • IB, Room 1020

### ► Cultural Event

Thursday January 29

12:30 – 1:30pm • Alumni Theatre, Clock Tower

The Fugitives: Vancouver artists who have been classified under many guises: slam folk, folk hop and spoken cabaret.