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Thompson Rivers University's Comprehensive News Magazine

THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY



Convocation 2007



Jennifer Hayes, a 2007 TRU graduate, stands outside the Bank of Montreal in Sahali, where she is Financial Services Manager.

2,007 grads to cross convocation stage

Thompson Rivers University is awarding an estimated 2007 diplomas, degrees and certificates from over 50 graduate and undergraduate degree options and more than 50 different career diploma and job entry certificate programs.

At each of the four convocation ceremonies in Kamloops on June 7 and 8, attendees will hear from honorary degree recipients, valedictorians and see the medal winner from each class lead their procession across the stage.

Beneath the mortarboard caps, the beaming faces of the graduates speaks to their pride in their academic accomplishments. But there is more to the university experience than a credential.

"Think of their leaving university not only with a degree, diploma or certificate, but with a rich group of networks, experiences, successes and confidence built through doing," said Roger Barnsley, President and Vice-Chancellor.

Undergraduate research opportunities, hands-on-involvement in quality construction projects, student leadership, co-op and Study Abroad are some of the ways students add value to their credentials.

"Think of these graduates holistically and inclusive of what they have achieved, with skills, education and experiences that prepare them for life," Dr. Barnsley said, reflecting on the graduating students.

Jennifer Hayes—Student Government

You'd never know this exuberant Bachelor of Business Administration grad with a major in finance and minor in human

resources had a shaky start to her post secondary studies when she headed to first-year sciences right out of high school in 2002.

Once Jennifer regrouped from her false start, she decided on business studies and took a run a student government, campaigning to be the business school's s rep. Her surprise win was Jennifer's first foray in networking at TRU; she met the internal VP of the Student Society, Tyler Keyes (BBA 2005). Tyler, now a manager with BMO offered a reference for her start in the banking industry.

Jennifer went on to be VP finance at the student society for two terms, was on the CUEF committee, two university VP hiring committees and undertook a major study regarding student advocacy issues.

"You wouldn't believe the things you can be involved in at university," Jennifer said. "The networking opportunity from being on committees with administration, faculty and students is one of my favorite things about TRU."

With her freshly printed degree Jennifer is a financial services manager at BMO in Sahali. After working four months as a part-time customer services representative (while she finished her last semester), the new position comes with a nice pay increase, benefits and brand new office, complete with her name on the door.

Having only a full-time job after years of full-time studies, part-time work and hundreds of hours serving on dozens of committees will seem like a breeze.

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Chancellor's Welcome

Congratulations graduates, and a warm welcome to esteemed guests, families and friends. As Chancellor of this university, I am honoured and privileged to be here to celebrate Convocation with you.

Thompson Rivers University is committed to comprehensiveness and to every form of knowledge and learning that prepare students for life and a career.

Your education is not only a significant personal achievement, it is also highly valued by our society and our country. The knowledge and skills you gained to earn your certificate, diploma or degree will help you build a better future for yourselves, and for us all.

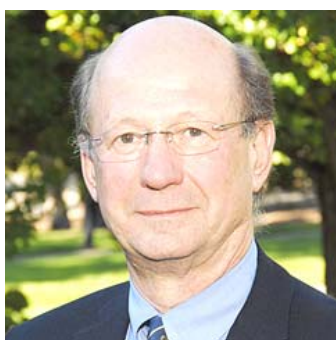
As successful graduates ready to enter a career or further your education, your expertise and ideas will reflect the level of education that you received here, and your credentials will be well recognized because of TRU's reputation as an innovative university that is known for a high standard of excellence.

I wish you all the best as you move forward, and ask you to stay in touch with your alma mater, Thompson Rivers University. Once again, congratulations, graduates. You have worked hard, and this day is yours to savour and enjoy.

Sincerely,

Nancy Greene Raine

Nancy Greene Raine
Chancellor
Thompson Rivers University



President and Vice-Chancellor's Welcome

Welcome graduates, families and friends.

We are here to celebrate a landmark occasion in the lives of our 2007 Thompson Rivers University certificate, diploma and degree graduates.

Congratulations graduates. You have worked hard to achieve what will be recognized here today. Each of you has received a first-class education and I am confident that you can now successfully pursue your career and life goals.

Along with my welcome and congratulations, I extend my thanks to those who are with us to celebrate on this occasion: our honorary doctorate recipients, our platform guests, the many faculty and staff present, and the families and friends of our graduating students.

Thank you as well to everyone who supported their students through years of study and hard work. We all share your pride in the accomplishments of our graduates.

At the end of Convocation, I invite you all to a reception in the Horticulture Gardens. I hope to see you there.

Again, congratulations, graduates.

Sincerely,

Roger H. Barnsley

Roger H. Barnsley
President and Vice-Chancellor
Thompson Rivers University

Diane Wells

–Nursing

Diane Wells received the Award of Excellence in Nursing Education from the College of Registered Nurses of British Columbia (CRNBC) at their annual general meeting in Vancouver May 9. Wells also received a TRU Teaching Excellence award in 2001.

Peter Tsigaris

–School of Business and Economics

Peter Tsigaris presented his paper “Evidence of a Double Dividend arising from Classroom Experimental Games” (2007) at the College Teaching & Learning (TLC) Conference, CLUTE Institute for Academic Research, Oahu, Hawaii. He also presented a paper he co-authored with colleague Dr. Jim Seldon “The Ultimatum Game, Distribution of Income and Re-Distributive Policy,” which was later published in the Proceedings of the Applied Business Research (ABR) Conference, CLUTE Institute for Academic Research, Oahu, Hawaii

Liam Mitchell

–BA 2004 (Arts Medal)

Liam Mitchell went on to receive his MA in political science from York. He has been accepted for PhD studies at UVic where he will be studying in the field of contemporary, social and political thought starting in September.

Karen Hoffman

–English and Modern Languages

Karen Hoffman has won the 2007 Okanagan Short Fiction Contest for her entry “Canoe,” besting a field of 151 contestants. Excerpts from Hoffman's story will be read on CBC Radio One this summer.

Kent Watson

–Natural Resource Science

The video for a BCcampus-funded initiative to develop a virtual teaching tool on specific soil forming processes consisting of four learning objects for use in soil, agriculture, forestry, and natural resource management courses across BC created by Kent Watson with partners from UBC and UNBC has won Honourable Mention from the Canadian Association for Distance Education (CADE) Award of Excellence for Partnership and Collaboration.

Ian Vaughan

–BNRS 2007

NRS instructor Kent Watson and student Ian Vaughan will present a poster project, “Soil Analysis Bordering Three Saline Ponds in the Kamloops, British Columbia Area,” created by Vaughan and including research by Watson, at the Canadian Society of Soil Science conference in Quebec this summer.

ACE*TRU

TRU's ACE (Advancing Canadian Entrepreneurship) team won first place in their division before placing in the top 10 of 44 teams at the finals at the annual Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) competition in Toronto in mid-May.

Laiel Soliman

–BSc Chemistry 2007

Laiel Soliman won first prize at the Undergraduate Research Conference at the University of the Fraser Valley for her talk about “Micellar Electrokinetic Chromatography of Benzimidazole Fungicides” (Kinsley Donkor supervisor). The research was then presented at the Western Canadian Undergraduate Conference in Saskatoon.

Nancy Levesque

–Library

Nancy Levesque, University Library Director, made a presentation on a new provincial collaborative initiative, the electronic Health Library of B.C. (eHLbc), at the BC Library Association Conference. Nancy will co-chair the project under the auspices of the BC Academic Health Council. The project licences a core suite of health research databases to support teaching, learning, and research and working health professionals.

Rikki Martens

–BSc Biology (Honours)

Rikki Martens won second prize for her talk on “Construction of gene libraries for bis-(3-pentafluorophenylpropyl)-sulfide (PFPS) metabolic genes” (Jon Van Hamme supervisor). Laiel and Rikki were two of the nine TRU undergraduate researchers presenting at the conference.

Mark Crawford

–BSc Chemical Biology 2007

Mark Crawford presenting “Determination of bis-(3-pentafluorophenylpropyl)-sulfide (PFPS) and PFPS metabolites in bacterial cultures using capillary electrophoresis” (supervisor Jonathan van Hamme) at the Western Canadian Undergraduate Conference in Saskatoon.

Skills Canada Post-Secondary Winners

Stephanie Hoffman (automotive) won gold at the 13th annual BC Skills Competition and will compete in the National Skills Canada Competition this month in Saskatoon. Randy Kuttnick (carpentry) and Spencer Duncan (electrical) won bronze in their respective categories.

Alex Enfield

–BSc Chemistry 2007

Alex Enfield presented “Computational Study of Reactions with Negative Activations Energies: cis/trans-2-butene + O(3P)” (supervisor Nelanie Mora-Diez) at this year's Canadian Society for Chemistry National Conference in Winnipeg.

Samantha Keller

–BSc (second year)

Samantha Keller presented “Computational Study of a Baeyer-Villiger Reaction” (supervisor Nelanie Mora-Diez) at this year's Canadian Society for Chemistry National Conference in Winnipeg.

Melissa Reid

–BSc Chemical Biology

Melissa Reid presented “Synthesis of New Quaterphenyl Molecules” (supervisor Norm Reed) at this year's Canadian Society for Chemistry National Conference in Winnipeg. Her paper will be published in the upcoming Proceedings of the 2nd Annual TRU Undergraduate Conference this June.

Sarah Tomlinson

–BSc Chemical Biology

Sarah Tomlinson presented “Analytical Method Development for Monitoring Biodegradation of Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS)” (supervisors Sharon Brewer & Jonathan van Hamme) at this year's Canadian Society for Chemistry National Conference in Winnipeg.

Valedictorians



Claire Gall



Shelley Kreutz



Kristine Rasmussen



Amber Greenall

› Valedictorian Ceremony A

Claire Gall

– Bachelor of Business Administration
After graduation in 2001 from Mount Baker Secondary in her home town of Cranbrook, Claire Gall came to TRU to study finance and marketing. Claire was vice-president of the ACE (Advancing Canadian Entrepreneurship) team which competed in Toronto this year, and she has also volunteered with the TRU eco-committee, Ducks Unlimited, BC Summer Games, Rotary Youth Leadership Camp, Lions Club, where she was inducted as an honorary member at the age of 18, and SPCA. Claire has accepted a position with Paramount Energy Trust of Calgary starting next week. She also plans to pursue a professional designation in finance and she will write the Level 1 chartered financial analyst exam later this year.

› Valedictorian Ceremony B

Shelley Kreutz

–Bachelor of Education
After graduating from Kamloops Secondary School in 1998, Shelley Kreutz earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in theatre from UBC before coming to TRU to complete a degree in education. Shelley is looking forward to moving back to her house in Burnaby and getting a teaching job on the Lower Mainland, while continuing to work in film during the summer months. She’s also hoping to take some time off to travel around Europe.

› Valedictorian Ceremony C

Kristine Rasmussen

–Bachelor of Fine Arts
After graduating from Merritt Secondary School in 2002, Kristine Rasmussen came to TRU to further her knowledge and interest in photography and printmaking through a degree in Fine Arts. An excellent student throughout high school and university, Kristine has won numerous awards for academic merit, including the Governor General’s Award in 2002, the National Terry Fox Humanitarian Award, the National Garfield Weston Merit Scholarship for Colleges, a Millennium Excellence Award, an AUCC Mattinson Endowment award, and a TRU Visual Arts faculty scholarship. She also found time to volunteer with the MS Society of Canada, the Terry Fox Run, and at the Sagebrush and Pavilion Theatres.

› Valedictorian Ceremony D

Amber Greenal

—Bachelor of Natural Resource Science
After graduating from Peter Skene Ogden Secondary School in 100 Mile House in 2002, Amber Greenall left the family ranch in 100 Mile House to come to TRU. A Bachelor of Natural Resource Science degree student with an interest in range issues, Amber attended the Society of Range Management Conference in Reno, Nevada, this year, where she placed 5th out of 152 students in the Undergraduate Range Management Exam. Amber’s future plans include a master degree, and she’s considering TRU’s new Master of Science in Environmental Science degree.

3 | CONVOCATION 2007 › VALEDICTORIANS & PROFESSORS EMERITUS

Professors Emeritus



Dr. Roelof K. Brouwer

Dr. Roelof Brouwer came to TRU in 1986 to teach in the Computing Science department. Since coming to TRU, he earned a PhD in Electrical Engineering and received two scholarly merit awards, in 1998 and 2004, in recognition of the quantity and quality of the work he has contributed to his field. He has served on a number of TRU committees, has contributed substantially to curriculum development, and was instrumental in the establishment of two degree programs.



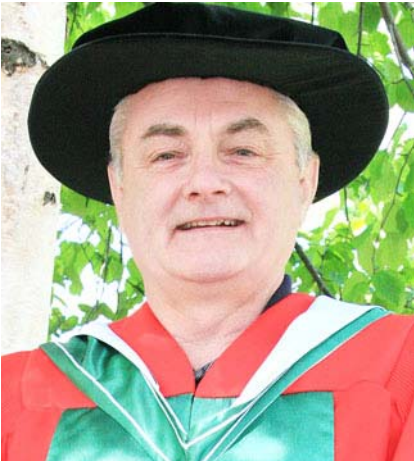
Dr. Linda B. Deutschmann

Dr. Linda Deutschmann came to TRU in 1994 to teach sociology. She was extremely competent in teaching and in her field of specialization: crime, deviance, and the criminal justice system. She emphasized proper sociological research techniques along with the course material in her classes, and the enthusiasm she displayed for learning and imparting knowledge was contagious. She received a teaching excellence award in 2001.



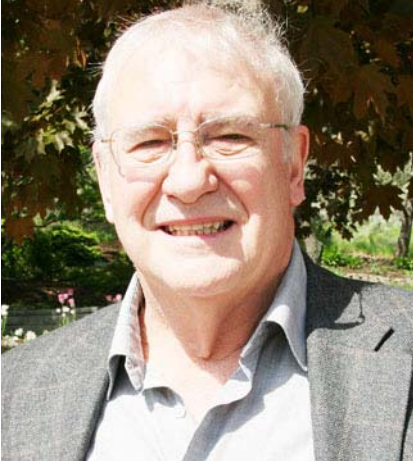
Dr. Ryszard Paweska

Dr. Ryszard Paweska came to teach computing at TRU in 1989, and was the only instructor in the department who had the breadth of knowledge in Computing Science to be able to teach all of the courses TRU offered in its two different degree programs. He was also an excellent teacher who made learning easy, and provided an easy conduit for help whenever problems arose. He received a teaching excellence award in 2003.



Dr. James E. Totten

Dr. James Totten came to Cariboo in 1979 from St. Mary’s University in Halifax, where he was an esteemed lecturer and researcher and, until his retirement this year, he has been a vital part of the campus community. As well as teaching in the Mathematics department, he organized ring hockey, was actively involved in Science Night activities, Problem of the Week, TRU Math Contest, and other outreach activities to schools and youth groups. He received a merit award in 1987 and a teaching excellence award in 1993.



Dr. G. Alastair Watt

Alastair began his career at TRU in 1974 when he came to teach university-transfer English courses. He was well known in the early days for his passionate readings of Scottish poetry at the annual St. Valentine’s Day Poetry Massacre. He served as Director of the department of Institutional Research and Planning since its inception, has been involved in key campus planning processes over the years, and served as TRU’s Associate VP of Administration and Planning before his retirement in 2007.



Honorary Doctorates



Dr. Chad Gaffield
Honorary Doctor of Letters

As president of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, one of Canada’s most prestigious research organizations, Chad Gaffield, one of the best-known and most-respected scholars across the social sciences and humanities in Canada, provides leadership to researchers across Canada and epitomizes Thompson Rivers University’s continuing development of and commitment to research and scholarship in the social sciences and humanities.

He has been president of the Canadian History of Education Association, the Canadian Historical Association and the Humanities and Social Sciences Federation of Canada, and is currently team leader of one of the most comprehensive humanities and social science research projects ever undertaken in Canada.

Throughout his academic career, Dr. Chad Gaffield has been at the cutting edge of systematic social science history in Canada, and he continues to make outstanding contributions to the furthering of knowledge of Canadian history. He is the author, editor or co-editor of 12 books and the author or co-author of 59 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, and in the past seven years, has presented 36 conference papers, 37 guest lectures and published 11 book reviews.

Among many other awards and citations, Chad Gaffield was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society’s Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences, the highest honour that can be attained by scholars, artists and scientists in Canada, and has also been awarded the Commemorative Medal for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II’s Golden Jubilee and the Royal Society of Canada’s J.B. Tyrrell Medal, the highest recognition for Canadian historical research.

It gives Thompson Rivers University great pleasure to confer upon Dr. Chad Gaffield the degree of Doctor of Letters, honoris causa.



Gordon Gore
Honorary Doctor of Letters

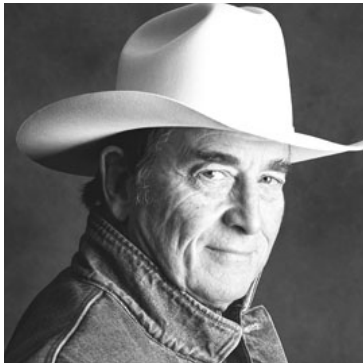
Gordon Gore has been recognized provincially, nationally and internationally as an author and teacher in science education who has dedicated his life to getting students excited and confident about science. He exemplifies Thompson Rivers University’s mission as a regional, teaching-focused university, to serve people and their communities through quality education, training and scholarship.

Gordon Gore taught science and mathematics in secondary schools in Vancouver, Richmond, Kamloops and Mission for 32 years and lectured at UBC and TRU both during this time and for a number of years afterward. He is the author or co-author of sixteen textbooks and the author of ten books of science experiments for youth, seven British Columbia Teacher’s Federation lesson aids and at least 50 magazine articles. From 1970 to the present, Gordon Gore has also presented dozens of workshops for teachers on photography, science and physics, and presented over 80 science shows at schools and community events.

In 2000, he founded the BIG Little Science Centre to inspire children, their families and teachers to explore and experience science in an entertaining and stimulating environment and to nurture a lifelong appreciation for and interest in science.

Gordon Gore has received a Distinguished Service Award from the British Columbia Science Teachers’ Association, the British Columbia Science Teachers’ Association’s Outstanding Science Teacher of the Year Award, the Rotary Club Four Way Test Award, British Columbia Lieutenant-Governor and Premier’s British Columbia Community Achievement Award, and the British Columbia Association of Physics Teachers Lifetime Achievement Award.

It gives Thompson Rivers University great pleasure to confer upon Mr. Gordon Gore the degree of Doctor of Letters, honoris causa.



Ian Tyson
Honorary Doctor of Letters

Ian Tyson is a Canadian music icon whose accomplishments over the past half century have made him one of Canada’s best and best-known artists.

Ian Tyson made his musical debut in Vancouver in 1956, and in addition to recording 12 albums with singer/songwriter Sylvia Fricker and eleven solo albums, has produced a video, written a book, hosted two television shows, and has played at concerts all over North America.

His song, Four Strong Winds, became a folk standard and was chosen in 2005 as the greatest Canadian song of all time by the audience of the CBC Radio One series 50 Tracks: The Canadian Version, and he was one of the first Canadian musicians to break into the American popular music market.

He has received a Country Music Award from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, six Big Country awards and a Juno award. He was twice named Male Vocalist of the Year by the Canadian Country Music Association, which also presented him with single and album of the year awards, and he has won the Alberta Recording Industries Association’s best male recording artist and best-selling album awards. He has been inducted into the CCMA Hall of Honour, the Canadian Country Music Hall of Fame, the Juno Hall of Fame, the Canadian Broadcast Hall of Fame and the Prairie Music Hall of Fame, and was named to the Order of Canada.

Thompson Rivers University is pleased to confer the degree of Doctor of Letters, honoris causa, upon Mr. Ian Tyson.



Dr. Nancy Edwards
Honorary Doctor of Letters

Dr. Nancy Edwards is one of Canada’s foremost nurse-scholars who provides mentorship for new and mid-career health researchers, and also helps researchers find ways to influence policy with their findings. Her research career and efforts at helping others build capacity for research has inspired nurse-scholars and nurse-educators in Canada and around the world.

Dr. Edwards is a full professor and principle scientist at the Institute of Population Health at the University of Ottawa, and is also Academic Consultant for the City of Ottawa regarding public health services, and Vice-Chair of the Canadian Institutes for Health Research Governing Council.

She has contributed scholarly articles to over 90 scientific and technical publications, and has held research fellowships in Canada and visiting professorships in Mexico and China, where she has directed three international projects over the past five years, and was appointed one of five national nursing research chairs funded by the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation and the Canadian Institutes for Health Research.

She has led national and international studies addressing a number of issues, and is currently collaborating with the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care and the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario on studies examining the dissemination and uptake of research evidence.

Dr. Edwards was awarded an honorary lifetime membership by the Canadian Public Health Association in 2000, and in 2006, City of Ottawa mayor Bob Chiarelli proclaimed May 10, 2006, “Nancy Edwards Day” in honour of her outstanding work in community health. This past year, she was the recipient of the 2006-2007 University of Ottawa Excellence in Research Award.

It gives Thompson Rivers University great pleasure to bestow the degree of Doctor of Letters, honoris causa, upon Dr. Nancy Edwards.



Photo: Patrick Doyle

Dr. Daphne Odjig
Honorary Doctor of Letters

Daphne Odjig is one of Canada’s foremost artists who has played an important part in recording developments that have been traumatic, passionate and critical to the rewriting of Canadian art history, and who epitomizes Thompson Rivers University’s mission to become a university of choice for aboriginal and First Nations students.

Daphne Odjig is an established and well-respected Canadian artist whose artwork has been commissioned for permanent collections in Japan, Israel, Yugoslavia and Sweden, and has been featured in 23 solo exhibitions, four group exhibitions and numerous books and book covers. She has written and illustrated a set of ten books on Indian legends for children, her artworks are displayed in 12 permanent collections, and she was one of four artists in the world to be selected by the curators of the Picasso Museum to paint a memorial to Picasso.

She co-founded the Professional Native Indian Artists Association, colloquially called the ‘Indian Group of Seven,’ in Winnipeg in 1973, and in 1974, she and her husband opened the Warehouse Gallery in Winnipeg, a huge venture that provided support for emerging aboriginal artists.

Daphne Odjig has been awarded a Canadian Silver Jubilee Medal, the Order of Canada, a National Aboriginal Achievement Award for Arts and Culture, and a Governor General’s Award in Visual and Media Arts. She has received four honorary degrees, was honoured as an elder by the Society of Canadian Artists of Native Ancestry, and was elected to the Royal Canadian Academy of Art.

Thompson Rivers University is honoured to confer a Doctor of Letters degree, honoris causa, upon Ms. Daphne Odjig.

Medal Winners



› **Governor General's Collegiate Bronze Medal**
Stuart Graham
 –Management Studies
 Stuart Graham was born in Vancouver in 1978, attending elementary and secondary school there. He completed his diploma in management studies through open learning while working. Recently married to another TRU graduate, Stuart plans to keep working in Vancouver.



› **Governor-General's Academic Silver Medal**
Christy Earle
 –Bachelor of Science in Nursing
 Christy Earle had many home towns and schools while growing up, and now, as new mom to nine-month-old daughter, Jovalyn, plans to take up the “gypsy life” herself and travel through her nursing vocation throughout Canada, the US, and internationally. Christy has volunteered in Kelowna General Hospital's emergency department, and with the CRNBC student rep program. She plans to pursue graduate studies in administration, and use that degree to become active in politics within the health care industry.



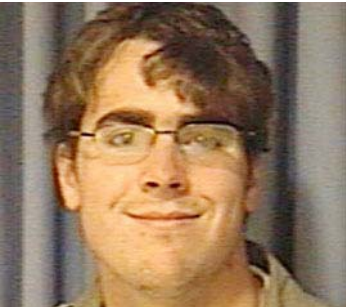
› **University Medal in Journalism**
Karl Hardt
 Karl Hardt was born in Nairobi, Kenya, but grew up in Montreal. After graduating from Royal West Academy in 1987, Karl moved to Calgary, where he earned a journalism arts diploma at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology in 1997. He then moved to Castlegar, earning a BC and Yukon Community Newspaper Association prize and a Hollinger Award of Distinction in newswriting and photography. In 2005 he moved to Kamloops to attend TRU, where he won the 2006 Jack Webster Student Journalism Award. He is considering graduate studies after spending some time in his chosen profession.



› **University Medal in Applied Computing Science**
Michael Farough
 Michael Farough was born in Winnipeg, then, when he was in Grade 4, moved with his family to Kamloops, where he graduated from Brocklehurst Secondary School in 2000. After earning a diploma in TRU's Computer Systems: Operations and Management program in 2004, Michael, an avid reader, video gamer, and snowboarder, laddered into TRU's Bachelor of Technology in Applied Computing Science degree program. He will be working in his profession in Kamloops after graduation.



› **University Medal in Fine Arts**
Linda Jules
 Linda Jules was born in Montreal, graduating from MacDonald High School in 1968. She completed a Bachelor of Arts degree at SFU in 1972, and then earned a diploma in cultural resources management at the University of Victoria in 1988, and a TRU fine arts diploma in 2006. Linda has volunteered with the Canadian Museums Association, the Heritage Advisory Council, the University of Victoria board of governors, the Kamloops Arts Gallery, where she was president of the board and chair of the public relations committee for the new gallery building campaign, and the Fine Arts School working group.



› **University Medal in Arts**
Jonathan McQuarrie
 History major Jonathan McQuarrie was born in Victoria, then moved with his family to 100 Mile House, where he graduated from Peter Skene Ogden Secondary in 2003. An active campus volunteer, Jonathan served on the electoral board for student union elections in 2005, was a High School Model UN moderator at TRU Model UN conference in 2006, and was a student representative on the European History hiring committee in 2007. He received TRU foundation awards in 2004, 2005, and 2006 and received the History Excellence Award this year. He plans to pursue graduate studies in English history.



› **University Medal in Education**
 Co-winner: **Jillian Marie Eyer**
 Jillian Eyer was born in Amherst, Nova Scotia, graduating from high school there in 1999. She earned a TRU Bachelor of Science degree in 2003, and has put her animal and environmental sciences knowledge to work in volunteer positions with Ducks Unlimited and the Burrowing Owl Conservancy Society. Jillian, who received the Margaret H. King Award for an education student who displays excellence in 2006, hopes to obtain a full-time teaching position.



› **University Medal in Education**
 Co-winner: **Krista Pitman**
 Krista Pitman grew up in Silver Valley, Alberta, graduating from Savanna School in 1987. She finished two years of post-secondary study at Grande Prairie Regional College from 1987–1989, returning to university in 2003. Krista volunteers with the Girl Guides of Canada, where her daughter is a Spark, as well as at Pinantan Elementary and Heffley Creek Elementary. She enjoys horse back riding, cross-country skiing, canoeing, hiking and camping. She has been hired as a teacher-on-call with School District #73 and hopes to be hired as a full-time elementary school teacher.



› **University Medal in Business Administration**
Maggie Xie
 Maggie Xie was born in Changzhou, Jiangsu, China, the daughter of a corporate lawyer and a pediatrician. After graduating from high school in 2002, Maggie came to TRU, where she's been named to the dean's list each semester and received a TRU Foundation award each year. Maggie, who will graduate with an honours BBA with a major in accounting and a minor in finance, received the Chartered Accountant Education Award. Maggie has found time to attend various student union activities and to participate in the ACE and Focus clubs.



› **University Medal in Natural Resource Science**
Amber Greenall
 Amber Greenall, who completed co-operative education work terms while completing her degree, has a strong interest in range issues. She attended the Society of Range Management Conference in Reno, Nevada, this year, where she placed 5th out of 152 students in the Undergraduate Range Management Exam. Amber's future plans include a master degree, and she's considering TRU's new Master of Science in Environmental Science degree. Amber is also a valedictorian.



› **University Medal in Science**
Kristi McBurnie
 Kristi McBurnie was born in Langley, grew up in Abbotsford, and then moved to Kamloops while a high school student, graduating from Valleyview Secondary in 2002. Kristi, who majored in computing science and minored in biology while completing her Bachelor of Science degree with a co-operative education option, won a number of scholarships, including a Community-University Enhancement Fund research grant, a prestigious Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council undergraduate research grant, and a leadership scholarship from the Girl Guides of Canada. She plans to pursue graduate studies in computer science.



› **University Medal in Social Work**
Lorry-Ann Marie Austin
 Lorry-Ann Austin was born in Edmonton, and while still a baby moved with her family to Algeria and, throughout her childhood, to Norway, England, Scotland and Singapore before returning to live in Surrey, BC, where she graduated from high school in 1990. She then completed an honours diploma in radio and television at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology in 1997. Lorry-Ann, whose accomplishments at TRU include a research scholarship and a social workers grant, plans to continue working as an acute care social worker at Royal Inland Hospital while attaining a master's degree in social work, which will enable her to become a clinical social worker.



› **University Medal in Nursing**
Kristen Allison Plowe
 Kristen Plowe was born and raised in Kamloops, graduating from Kamloops Senior Secondary in 1995. After some time traveling overseas, she returned to the classroom, earning a horticulture certificate from TRU in 2000. Kristen then worked and took a variety of courses before settling down to pursue a nursing degree in earnest. A dean's list scholar with a passion for physical activity, Kristen also found time to volunteer with the nursing undergrad society and as a tutor in patho-physiology. She is working full time at Royal Inland Hospital on a medical ward. She hopes to eventually earn a graduate degree in nursing, and then teach patho-physiology.



› **University Medal in Tourism Management**
Christine Hawes
 Christine Hawes was born and raised on Galiano Island, graduating from Stelly's Secondary there in 1999, then completed a wilderness leadership program at Capilano College in 2003 before coming to TRU. After travelling in South America for the summer, Christine hopes to return to Africa, where she worked in a Kenyan Children's Home as well as in small communities for famine relief. Upon her return to Canada, she plans to work as a sea kayak guide on the BC coast and the Queen Charlotte Islands. Future plans include continuing to work in tourism, primarily in Africa with a focus on tourism as a source of aid. She is currently in Chile doing community development work.

Networks, experiences and successes prepare graduates

> Continued from Page 1

Ian Vaughan—Undergraduate Research

Don't look for Ian Vaughan among the Bachelor of Science grads during the June 8 convocation ceremony. The environmental chemistry major will be in Quebec presenting his research, Soil Analysis Bordering Three Saline Ponds in the Kamloops, British Columbia Area at the annual Canadian Society of Soil Science conference. Ian admits that if he was there, and his mother and high school counselor were watching, there would be plenty of tears. He holds the self-proclaimed record for missing the most days of class from Sir John Franklin in Yellowknife NT and still graduating from high school.

Two years out of high school and still with no direction, finding TRU was fate. "I was hitch-hiking from the Kootneys to Sun Peaks to snowboard in 2001," Ian said. "My ride said to check-out the great school in Kamloops."

He did and earned a Power Sports and Marine Equipment Technician Certificate in the Trades division. "After that I wasn't ready to be done and registered for first-year sciences in 2002," Ian said.

"I found the school to be such a close knit community. To me it's always felt like the faculty care and that the focus is on the student."

When Ian reached the upper-levels of his degree, he approached Dr. Sharon Brewer in Chemistry about a self-directed research project. "She asked me what I wanted to do. I said something hands on, with outside field work," Ian said. "I wanted it to have a lab component as well."

As for future plans, don't look to Ian to make any. From the conference he's catching a flight to Panama City and from there will travel around Central America. "Things will become clearer there," Ian said. "I really liked it at TRU and I am still not quite ready to be done."

Josh Banford—Peer Support & Study Abroad

As his history major peers from the faculty of arts receive their degrees, Josh Banford will start his Secondary Education internship program in Victoria.

During his five years at TRU Josh logged thousands of volunteer hours with the Peer Support Team. "Volunteering for Peer Support let me see things from a different perspective, I viewed the larger part of the university community."

To expand his university experience even further, Josh spent a semester in 2004-2005 at Halmstad University, in southwest Sweden, through the Study Abroad Program. In addition to receiving credit towards his TRU degree he was able to travel to Norway, Denmark and northern Germany as well as throughout Sweden.

"It was almost like being 'on holiday' at the same time as going to school," Josh said. "Plus it was exciting and interesting and a learning experience at all times, just by being in a new culture and place as well as all the other international students we lived with from all over the world."

Of the friends he made overseas, a couple ended up back at TRU on an exchange themselves. He attributes his exchange experience for making him more open and interested in the exchange students that come to TRU.

Lisa Coriale—Never Lost Sight Of Her Goal

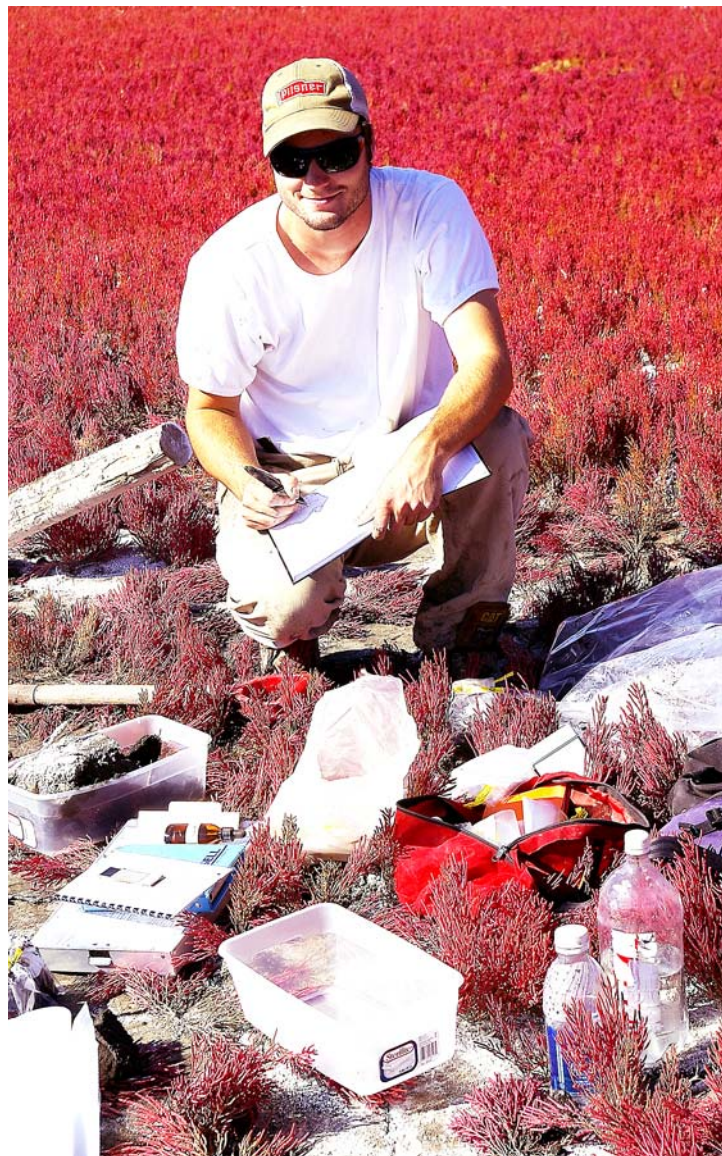
When Lisa Coriale crosses the convocation stage on the afternoon of June 7 to receive her Bachelor of Social Work degree, she'll be completing the last stage of a long and arduous academic journey.

Although technically enrolled as a part-time student, this determined young woman has been working at her degree full-time for nine years. Born with cerebral palsy, Lisa graduated from Kamloops Secondary before starting her undergraduate studies. She initially set her sight on a journalism degree but changed her direction part way through her studies.

Despite her challenges Lisa says her experience at TRU was well worth her efforts, "I am happy to be graduating, but sad to be leaving university too."

"I've been helped by a lot of people, and I'd like to thank all of those who helped me get my degree." She completed two practicums—at the TRU Wellness Centre and at People in Motion.

"Lisa taught many of us a lot about living with disabilities," said Davina Neve, Lisa's support worker since January. "Her presentations to class really made an impact."



Ian Vaughan collects specimens at a pond in Kamloops as part of his

Conference targets provincial roles in shaping culture

The Centre for the Study of Canada conference, "Still the 'Last Best West' or Just Like the Rest?" will be held September 13–16, 2007, at Thompson Rivers University.

This conference examines some of the cultural, social, and political ways in which the provinces – individually or collectively – have informed the wider imagination. Sessions will feature more than 40 speakers, among them Dr. Alex Michalos, TRU honorary doctor and UNBC professor emeritus, Nancy Millar, a writer and historian, and poet Marilyn Dumont.

For more information, please contact Anne Gagnon (agagnon@tru.ca), Ginny Ratsoy (ratsoy@tru.ca), or visit the website at: www.tru.ca/ae/cnst

> Follow the links to the preliminary program and registration information.



THOMPSON RIVERS
UNIVERSITY
FOUNDATION

The Second Annual TRU Foundation Charity Golf Classic will be held at Sun Rivers Golf Resort Sept. 14. The registration fee is \$150 and includes a deluxe dinner buffet with all proceeds going to support financial aid for TRU students.

Brett Hansen, left, Al Gozda, Grayden Flanagan and Dave Shaw took part in last year's inaugural tournament.

For information on registration or sponsor opportunities contact the Foundation at 828.5264 or visit the website at www.tru.ca/foundation



Master of Science in Environmental Studies to welcome first cohort

TRU's new graduate degree, which begins this September, was developed with three objectives: to be unique, flexible and relevant; to fill local, regional, provincial, national and international needs for environmental professionals; and to produce graduates who are innovative and have multi-disciplinary skills and broad knowledge.

These graduates are expected to be the scientists and policy-makers who understand the complexities of environmental systems from a wide range of contexts, to provide solutions critical to maintaining a strong, sustainable resource-based economy. They will be able to respond to regional needs, addressing specific environmental concerns such as post-fire logging management practices, restoration of grasslands and wetlands, the integrity of southern interior BC environments, and environmental tourism.

One of the drivers behind the new program, TRU Canada Research Chair in Grassland Ecology Dr. Lauchlan Fraser, said, "TRU is ideally suited to study environmental issues because of its proximity to a wide variety of diverse regional ecosystems, the excellent laboratory facilities on campus and because TRU has been able to bring faculty together from across disciplines to ensure that our graduates are able to consider environmental issues within a political, social, economic and multi-disciplinary scientific perspective."

"This program provides a much-needed resource for the BC Interior and the world by developing the next generation of scientists with the combination of critical and creative thinking skills and in-depth intellectual and technical understanding to develop solutions to the complex issues faced by societies, businesses and industry," said TRU Associate Vice-President of Research and Graduate Studies, Dr. Nancy Van Wagoner.

For more information, please contact Dr. Lauchlan Fraser at 377.6135 or by email lfraser@tru.ca



Peter Tsigaris accepts his awards with the help of his family.

‘True gentleman scholar’ honoured with two awards

› Teaching Excellence Award › Scholarly Merit Award

For the first time in the history of TRU staff awards that one person has received two awards in the same year. The distinction of receiving a 2007 Teaching Excellence Award and a 2007 Scholarly Merit Award belongs to Peter Tsigaris, Associate Professor of Economics.

Peter has been using experimental classroom games to illustrate economic concepts with excellent results, and presented papers at two scholarly conferences this semester showing how students benefit from such games. An article he wrote on the subject is currently under review by the Journal of Economic Education.

Peter’s students rave about his teaching manner and methods, with comments ranging from: “His lectures are interesting. I feel like I actually learn something in his class,” “he is one of the most animated lecturers that I have ever had,” and “his lectures are just fun. I would go to them just to watch, even if I wasn’t registered in the course” to: “Peter was instrumental in my choosing TRU for undergraduate studies,” “Peter takes pride in his

students’ endeavours and achievements; he lends support and encouragement to his students and challenges them to strive to achieve academic excellence and to take an active community role at TRU,” and “Peter has made a difference in my education and in my life. Peter is really a world class teacher and we are all very lucky to have him.”

In the past few years, Peter has authored or co-authored seven papers. According to Google Scholar, academic research published by Peter has been cited by 36 academic studies. He has also published eight articles in non-refereed publications as well as numerous online sources, has co-authored a chapter of a book on taxation policy, and presented papers at 26 international conferences.

Peter, who holds a PhD in Economics from Concordia University, has also served as a consultant regarding forestry development planning in Bangladesh, and has been a referee for three academic journals since 1993.



Sandra Vermeulen

‘One of the most approachable professors’

› Teaching Excellence Award

Sandra Vermeulen–Psychology

Sandra Vermeulen’s student-driven nomination was remarkable for the fact that almost all of her student nominators had taken multiple classes with her, and for good reason.

Dr. Vermeulen’s effect on students is such that it reflects on their entire university experience. “My experience at TRU has been an exceptional one, much of it due to professors like Sandra,” said one student, while another noted that “Sandra has been a significant contributor to my success at TRU.”

“Dr. Vermeulen has a natural ability to deconstruct complicated material and repackaging it into an easy-to-understand, accessible format,” a nominator said. Another summed up by saying, “Sandra takes the time to ensure that her students have a clear understanding of difficult concepts. She is always prepared for her lectures and she presents the material in a stimulating and engaging manner. She is also one of the most approachable teachers I know.”



Lynne Wiltse

‘Exceptional mentor of developing teachers’

› Teaching Excellence Award

Lynne Wiltse–Education

Lynne Wiltse has high expectations of her students and equally high expectations for herself as she works to help her students give and be the best they can be through the use of such techniques as experiential learning and close mentorship. Her dean and principal nominator said of Lynne that “she is a dedicated faculty member, an outstanding teacher, a superb language and literacy mentor to over 300 Bachelor of Education students, a compassionate and understanding faculty mentor to those students whom she supervised in their teaching practica, and an involved and resourceful member of the B.Ed faculty.”

All of her 57 student nominators commented on Lynne’s personable and professional approach to teaching and her use of effective educational pedagogy, but one summed it up admirably: “I am extremely fortunate to have access to the educational treasures that Dr. Lynne Wiltse has to offer. Lynne is an exceptional mentor of developing teachers.”

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Distinguished Service Awards 2007

Grace Simpson–Williams Lake campus

Grace Simpson is TRU-Williams Lake’s ‘go-to’ person. All of her nominators noted that “She handles all situations, complaints, problems and emergencies professionally and calmly,” while dealing with a myriad of tasks.

And she’s been doing so for a long time. Said one nominator, “Grace has been an administrator at this campus long before her recent change in title. Hers is regularly the first car in the parking lot in the morning, and among the last to leave.” “She works very hard, often long hours and is unbelievably organized handling massive numbers of details each and every day she is at work. She picks up extra work loads and job responsibilities and acts as the hub of the wheel to see us through.”

Randy Matter–Bookstore

Randy Matter’s innovative approach to his job was the subject of many nominators’ comments, and Randy Matter has been responsible for many innovations at bookie’s. He “Introduced sell-through forms so faculty would know what percentage of their students were actually buying the textbook each semester; initiated an online book buyback program; began a program of incentive gifts to faculty for sending in their book orders on time; instituted online text ordering; and established a method of disposing of old editions of textbooks through the Books for Africa program.

Mary Ann Peressini–School of Social Work and Human Services

Mary Ann Peressini has volunteered for convocation and open house, and many nominators commented on Mary Ann’s manner with students, staff and visitors.

Her work ethic was also the subject of many nominators’s commendations: “Her willingness to learn and to take on projects such as the BSW admissions database and the School of Social Work and Human Services’ WebCT site reflect her ability to improve administrative functions through innovation,” said one, while another said, “Mary Ann has always added a unique flair to every aspect she engages in within the School.”

Dan O’Reilly–Philosophy

Dan O’Reilly has built a solid reputation of helping people come up with computer-related solutions to their projects and problems at TRU. As one nominator put it, “Dan’s spirit of volunteerism is legendary.”

Many nominators commented on his web-based initiatives. Dan has helped, including serving as CURA workshop organizer & webmaster; giving faculty tutorials on WebCT, Moodle, blogs and podcasts; serving as a Tech It Up! workshop volunteer; serving for many years on the provincial philosophy articulation committee; and creating websites for student and staff-driven conferences, projects and programs.



Randy Matter, left, Mary Ann Peressini and Dan O’Reilly, accept their 2007 Distinguished Service Awards.

Students garner awards at TRU athletics banquet

The Thompson Rivers University WolfPack has now completed its second year in the Canada West conference of Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS), and, as predicted, our CIS performance was better than last year's.

Next year, with more experience, all teams hope to turn some of this season's narrow losses into decisive wins, thanks to some extremely talented players, some of whom won recognition on both the campus and conference levels.

Top scorer on the men's team was 1st-year outside hitter from Beausoleil, France, Robin Schoebel, who finished in the top ten in three Canada West conference play categories. The 2007 Canada West Rookie of the Year, was named to the CIS all-rookie team, and was TRU's 2007 Male Athlete of the Year. Troy Jaggard of Calgary received the coaches' vote for Player of the Year, while Tim Flannigan of Prince George, 2006 TRU men's volleyball MVP and top scholar athlete, received the players' vote for Player of the Year. Rookie Patrick Johnston of Whitby, Ontario, was named TRU Sports Task Force Male Athlete of the Year.

Robyn Devlin of Revelstoke, who led the women's volleyball team into its inaugural CIS season last year, helped it to provincial gold and the fair play award in its last year of play in the CCAA, and helped to keep the team in the running for a playoff spot until the final weekend of conference play, finished in the top ten in three Canada West conference play categories. She was named 2007 TRU Female Athlete of the Year. Also receiving TRU awards were Lauren Stockstad of Surrey, who received the team award, and Laura Battison of Langley, voted women's volleyball Rookie of the Year.

Canada West men's basketball stats at the end of the regular season showed Kamar Burke, who double-doubled in eight of the 21 conference games he played in this season, ranked in the top ten in five categories, while teammate Charlie Spurr finished the regular season in the top ten in four categories. Kamar was named 2007 TRU Rookie of the Year, while Charlie was TRU men's basketball MVP. Voted most inspirational player was Brian Smith of Maple Ridge, who helped the team to national gold in its final year of CCAA play, and has been a mainstay of the program since.

Kelley O'Grady of Campbell River was named TRU women's basketball's Most Dedicated Player after finishing the Canada West regular season in the top ten in two categories, while rookie forward Danika Maartman of Kamloops was named the team's Most Improved Player. 2007 TRU Sports Task Force Athlete of the Year is Kristi Spelay of Sorrento, a women's basketball team forward, while Alix Stupich of Ladysmith was named 2007 TRU Scholar Athlete of the Year.

"These are only the award winners who play on CIS teams. TRU salutes all of its scholar athletes who have dedicated so much extracurricular time to the WolfPack while managing to keep up their academic performance," said TRU athletics director Ken Olynynk. In addition to winning national silver last fall, TRU's women's soccer team picked up the Kamloops Sports Council team of the year award this spring, and coach Eric Schweizer was named coach of the year. Also this spring, the WolfPack baseball club won the Canadian College Baseball Conference title after winning 18 of its last 20 games.



Ken Olynynk, TRU Athletics Director, views the completed Tournament Capital Centre at Hillside. The city-owned facility will host WolfPack Varsity home games.

Individual and team award winners

- List of award winners:
- TRU Sports Task Force Athlete of the Year**
- > Male: Patrick Johnston, Men's Volleyball
 - > Female: Kristi Spelay, Women's Basketball
- Scholar Athlete of the Year**
- > Male: Tanner Brotzel, Baseball
 - > Female: Alix Stupich, Women's Basketball
- Athlete of the Year**
- > Male: Robin Schoebel
 - > Female: Robyn Devlin
- Team Awards**
- Women's Basketball**
- > Most Improved Player, Danika Maartman
 - > Most Dedicated Player, Kelley O'Grady
- Men's Basketball**
- > Most Inspirational, Brian Smith
 - > Rookie of the Year, Kamar Burke
 - > MVP, Charlie Spurr
- Women's Volleyball**
- > Team Award, Lauren Stockstad
 - > Rookie of the Year, Laura Battison
- Men's Volleyball**
- > Player of the Year (Coaches' Vote), Troy Jaggard
 - > Player of the Year (Player's Vote), Tim Flannigan
- Women's Soccer**
- > Leader of the Pack (MVP), Kelsi Butner
 - > Outstanding Performance, Shantelle Cooper
 - > Wolfpup Freshman Award, Shannon Meyer
 - > Clutch Performance Award, Katie Clark
 - > Alpha Wolf Award, Stacy Bekkering
- Men's Soccer**
- > Outstanding Performance, James Byra
 - > Freshman of the Year, Tim Unaegbu
- Baseball**
- > Male MVP, Andy Chu
 - > Female MVP, Whitney Mackenny
 - > Most Improved Male, Clark Chen
 - > Most Improved Female, Ming Wong
- Baseball**
- > Rookie of the Year, Matt Bannister
 - > Top Pitcher, Frank Ingram
 - > Top Hitter, Alex Ponich
 - > Most Improved, Torrie Watters
 - > Golden Glove, Will Devick
 - > MVP, Alex Ponich
- Cheerleading Squad**
- > Most Improved, Alisa Miller
 - > Most Spirited, Sarah Ball
 - > Allstar, Alyssa Nuyens
- Graduating Student-Athletes** (4th year soccer & baseball, 5th year volleyball and basketball)
- > Duaine Bowles, Baseball
 - > Tanner Brotzel, Baseball
 - > Nathan French, Baseball
 - > Geoff Fahlman, Baseball
 - > Paul Wourms, Baseball
 - > Dwight Liburd, Baseball
 - > Frank Ingram, Baseball
 - > Kelsi Butner, Women's Soccer
 - > Theresa Marples, Women's Soccer
 - > Kristin Peters, Women's Volleyball
 - > Robyn Devlin, Women's Volleyball
 - > Sandra-Joy Unaegbu, Women's Volleyball
 - > Chris Monteleone, Men's Soccer
 - > Dan Cecchini, Men's Soccer
 - > Travis Duncan, Men's Soccer
 - > Hee Young Chung, Men's Soccer
 - > Brad Clark, Men's Soccer
 - > Shane Laye, Men's Soccer

Tournament Capital Centre attracts new recruits to WP

There's not a new WolfPack recruit that's been able to turn down an offer to play on TRU varsity team once they've seen the new Tournament Capital Centre.

"There's not another facility like this in the country," Ken Olynynk, TRU Director Athletics said. "Having our athletes able to play and train here just adds another level of excellence to the TRU experience."

He also expects individual athletes competing in sports such as track and field to be attracted to TRU because of the enhanced training opportunities.

Officially opened on May 26, the 135,000 square foot multi-sport facility will be the home court advantage for the WolfPack once the 2007/2008 Canadian Intervarsity Sport season gets underway.

Situated on campus, the venue originally was the site of the Canada Games Aquatic Centre and Hillside Stadium, built by the city of Kamloops for the 1993 Canada Summer Games. In 2005 construction began on the \$23 million Tournament Capital Center, adding a 200-metre, six lane indoor track; 15,000 square feet of gymnastic space; three hardwood courts for basketball, volleyball and badminton; 8,000 square feet of public fitness rooms; 3,000 square feet of public meeting rooms; dedicated space for athlete conditioning and training; medical centre; and offices for Pacific Sport and TRU Athletics.