

insidetru

Thompson Rivers University's *Comprehensive News Magazine*
 THOMPSON RIVERS  UNIVERSITY

Convocation 2008



Graduates Megan Sakakibara and Lain Dekowny stand ready for Convocation in front of the TRU International Building.

Graduates did it their way

by Jamie Schaab

The marks are tallied, the ceremonies scheduled, and the guests invited. But even though the procedures appear to be routine, there's nothing ordinary about the approximately 1,600 graduates Thompson Rivers University is boasting this spring. The university offers flexible learning formats, specialized services, and opportunities to earn credentials abroad or boost your resume with practical experience, making it possible for each student to customize an education that fits his or her individual needs.

"We are committed to ensuring students are equipped with the resources needed to achieve academic success," President and Vice-Chancellor Dr. Roger Barnsley said. "As a result, the graduates exiting their respective programs each have the opportunity to create a unique scholastic career that closes gaps put forth by proximity and circumstance."

Megan Sakakibara—Co-op and Study Abroad

Megan Sakakibara set herself apart from the average grad by taking advantage of the extra opportunities TRU has to offer. "You need more than a degree; so I wanted to give myself a competitive edge." Sakakibara started doing so by consistently earning top marks on her way to a Bachelor of Business Administration with a double-major in marketing and international business, but she's quick to

point out that becoming a candidate future employers can't ignore doesn't have to be achieved academically. She also completed two co-op terms working for TRU's Marketing and Communications department as a Student Recruitment Officer, and that kind of practical experience looks fabulous on a resume. The work terms also confirmed to Sakakibara that her courses were adequately preparing her for the real world. "I don't think you're actually aware of how much you're getting out of it until you have the chance to pool your skills together." And while promoting the university to potential students, the Kamloops native learned all about the Study Abroad program and decided to take advantage of it herself. "It was one of the best experiences of my life, and I still got all the credits I needed for school." Studying at an English-speaking school in Austria for one semester didn't cost any more than studying locally, and she received a \$1,500 scholarship from the program to help offset the travel expense. "I would encourage anyone to do it."

Lain Dekowny—Kappa Sigma and WUSC

Lain Dekowny leaves quite the legacy behind upon graduating this spring from the Bachelor of Science program, majoring in chemical biology.

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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
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 2008 Thompson Rivers University certificate, diploma and degree graduates.

Congratulations graduates! You have worked hard to achieve what will be recognized here today.

As I approach my retirement from the position of President and Vice-Chancellor at this university in August, I'd like to take this opportunity to reflect on my experience and the privilege of working with so many outstanding individuals committed to student learning and student success.

Few people have experienced the special honour to lead a university, especially one that has matured and grown as Thompson Rivers University has in the last decade.

As a senior administrator within the Western Canadian university system, I had recognized that the University College of the Cariboo was an innovative and comprehensive institution. After I accepted the appointment to be the university college's president in 1997, I quickly realized that there was a strong spirit of entrepreneurship amongst the faculty and staff that complemented its innovation and comprehensiveness.

The leadership at the university prior to my arrival had set the tone of dynamism and entrepreneurship; building a culture at the institution that remains self-reliant with a focus on improving – that is our university's hidden jewel.

To see the quality of the TRU faculty, even prior to becoming a university, has been very satisfying. TRU has developed strong scholarship and good community outreach and remained incredibly teaching-focused, that's the core of the university. And out of that we've been able to develop a strong research profile.

Success breeds success, and it's that dynamism of growth that is embedded in the culture here that has enabled us to accomplish a great deal in the last ten years.

As the torch of the presidency is passed along, I wish my successor all the best. Thompson Rivers University is very dear to me, and I trust that it will continue to achieve great things with the support of the dedicated faculty and staff.

I look forward to always being a part of this university as I meet these graduates and our other alumni, as they take up their roles as leaders in our communities and businesses. That is the exciting part of education – how it continues to affect change for each of us, for all of our lives.

Again, congratulations, graduates.

Sincerely,

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

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Lain Dekowny—Kappa Sigma and WUSC

In addition to helping establish the Kappa Sigma fraternity, volunteering with the TRU security force, and serving as a student representative for the former Cariboo Student Society, Dekowny also found time to make a trip to Malawi, Africa with the World University Service of Canada (WUSC) to conduct HIV/Aids research—an experience he won't soon forget. "I can't even describe it," Dekowny explains. The group of 20 students spent six weeks comparing the conditions of those living with the disease in rural and urban areas, and then comparing those conditions with Canadian standards. Dekowny is hoping to go on another adventure soon, but this time just to the other side of Canada. While he looks forward to seeing the East Coast, he'd opt to continue his education at TRU if the two-year advanced program in nursing he applied to was offered locally. "You don't get the same quality of education at larger campuses. At TRU, I was taught by professors—not teaching assistants."

Martha Sellu—Work Study

Martha Sellu immigrated to Canada from Sierra Leone in 2003. The personalized attention she received in the Bachelor of Social Work program at TRU helped to bridge the cultural gap between her and the instructors. "I really liked the small class sizes. You are able to meet your teachers and know your teachers—that helps a lot" says Sellu. Another benefit to Sellu was TRU's Work Study program, which enabled her to earn an income without having to venture off campus. "That was really convenient." But she did explore the rest of Kamloops and volunteered to teach Sunday School as well as facilitate a youth group. Sellu is empathetic towards children and the challenges they face. "I can relate to them—I know what they've been through." So she plans to use her skills to shed light on all the resources children and their families have available to them in Canada. "If they can get help from someone like me, it could be different for them" Sellu concludes.

Christine Johnson—Second Time Around

Christine Johnson started studying at TRU back in 2001, not long after the birth of her daughter. She decided, however, that it wasn't the best time to embark on her student career, so she took a couple years off and returned in 2003 with more family support behind her. Now Johnson's supporters are eager to watch her formally graduate at the convocation ceremony from the Bachelor of Business Administration program with a major in human resources. "There's a whole lot of family planning on coming" she says eagerly. In addition to being ready to tackle her education the second time around, Johnson also got involved with the First Nations Students Association. She says that while First Nations Awareness Week benefits the entire student body, the association is there to help new Aboriginal students adjust to life on campus. Originally from Alkali Lake, Johnson now plans to stay in Kamloops and work for five years before returning to school, yet again, with her eye on a master's degree.

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Valedictorians



› Valedictorian Ceremony A

Danissa Kraljevic

– Bachelor of Science Nursing

A graduate of St. Ann's in 2001, Danissa has been active at TRU and in the Kamloops community for seven years, including four summers as a firefighter dispatcher for the Ministry of Forests and four years on the women's basketball varsity team playing the position of point guard and team captain. In 2005 she received the Sports Task Force Athlete of the Year and Women's Basketball Leadership Awards. As a member of the student athlete committee she played a pivotal role in choosing the name WolfPack for TRU's varsity teams. Whether as an athlete or during her third year international nursing practicum in Samoa, volunteering to speak for the School of Nursing at the annual toys-for-tots campaign or making sure colleagues from Williams Lake were welcomed, Danissa has taken great pride in representing Thompson Rivers University. It's something she'll continue as she heads to Australia for a few years of work and travel.



› Valedictorian Ceremony B

Ryan Steele

– Bachelor of Computing Science
– Bachelor of Business Administration

Ryan began his post-secondary education at TRU in 2000, the summer after his graduation from Valleyview Secondary and has gone on to accomplish a great deal. He has completed four Co-op education semesters, an experience he describes as the best way to test drive a career to find out what you like and don't like. In 2004 he received his Computer System: Operations and Management diploma, and was named to the Dean's List for academic achievement. He then spent a year studying abroad at the Tianjin University of Technology in Tianjin, China. Ryan has been active in the Advancing Canadian Entrepreneurship (ACE) and the Eco-Committee clubs on campus and is one of only a half a dozen students to have taken advantage of the double degree in BCS and BBA in the ten years it has been offered.



› Valedictorian Ceremony C

Caitlin Johnson

– Bachelor of Tourism Management

A bilingual graduate from John Peterson Secondary School's French Immersion program, Caitlin knew that tourism was her calling after travelling to Europe in 2003. Since entering the Bachelor of Tourism Management program in 2004, she has spent her summers working in the industry with Rocky Mountaineer Vacations and the Kamloops Visitor Centre, where she is currently a lead counsellor. In her spare time, Caitlin can be seen supporting and photographing local bands and musicians, playing guitar, and participating in community runs. She is also a budding wine connoisseur. After a trip later this summer to Denmark, she is considering pursuing graduate studies in tourism and sustainability.



› Valedictorian Ceremony D

Jamie Schaab

– Bachelor of Journalism

Since transferring her first year of university courses from Northern Lights College in Fort St. John, to the journalism program at TRU, Jamie has made the most of every opportunity to become a competent in all media. She currently hosts Radio NL's Saturday show in Merritt, has done freelance writing for magazines, and completed a summer internship at the Merritt Herald. In 2007 she was a BC Yukon Community News Association essay award recipient, received the Douglas Morelli Memorial Scholarship and won the 2004 Dave Johnson Academic Studies Award at Northern Lights Community College. With some real newsroom experience behind her, she has the confidence to plot a career that may include options ranging from public relations, publishing, to freelancing. As a newly certified yoga instructor, whatever her future plans entail, they will certainly balance life and work.

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Educator Emeritus

Dr. Trevor Chandler

A senior tutor with Open Learning, Trevor has been with the university since 1982, after spending nine years in Africa applying ecological principles to land use management. At OL he taught biology, ecosystems and environmental studies and has also designed courses. Most recently he took on the coordinator role in the Arts and Science PLAR (prior learning assessment and recognition) program. He is an avid traveller and has been directly responsible for a wide range of agricultural, land use, and environmental impact projects in Lillooet and the surrounding region. He is very active in his community and his hobbies include organic orcharding of heirloom fruit, wilderness hiking and is involvement with non-violence and environmental causes.

Professor Emeritus

Dr. Colin James

Retired in 2007 as the Associate Vice-President, Academic and Chief Operating Officer, Open Learning Division. Colin started his career at TRU in 1981 as a chemistry instructor. His career evolved to Department Chair, Acting Director, Dean of Science, Associate VP, and ultimately Academic and Chief Operating Officer. He served on 45 internal and 12 external university liaison committees, including the Senate, the Open Learning Planning Council, the President's Council (internally) and the Canadian Virtual University Advisory Committee and BC Campus Implementation Steering Committee (externally). He also served in several capacities with the RIH Board of Directors, served on the executive of the Barnhartvale Community Association, and was Special Secretary with the Inter-American Photochemical Association. He received a Distinguished Service award from TRU in 1995. In retirement Colin is catching up with family, travelling, gardening, taking time for his hobbies, and staying connected with TRU.



Convocation 2008

Honorary Doctorates



> Ceremony A

Dr. Bryan E. Kolb
Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*

Dr. Bryan Kolb is recognized as one of the world's leading neuroscientists and is often called a founding father of behavioural neuroscience. He developed the first course in human neuropsychology in Canada, and co-authored the premier academic text in that field.

Among his many discoveries and achievements, Dr. Kolb was the first to show how the growth of new brain cells can restore psychological and behavioural function.

In 1976, he joined the University of Lethbridge's psychology department, and is currently a Professor and Acting Chair of the Department of Neuroscience at the University of Lethbridge.

Kolb, along with his colleague Dr. Ian Wishaw, built the world-class Canadian Centre for Behavioural Neuroscience in 2001 at the University of Lethbridge. The Centre houses twelve principal investigators' laboratories, vivariums, two MRI's and space for about 150 students, technical staff, and visiting scientists.

Dr. Kolb is a Killam Fellow, and a Fellow of the Canadian Psychological Association, the American Psychological Association, the American Psychological Society, and the Royal Society of Canada. He is a recipient of the Hebb Prize from the Canadian Psychological Association, and is a former president of the Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour, and Cognitive Science.

Kolb has published 16 books, including two best-selling standard textbooks on neuroscience with co-author Ian Wishaw and roughly 300 articles and chapters. He is currently a theme leader in the Canadian Stroke Network and Associate Director for a program on Experience Based Brain Development at the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research's.

In recognizing Dr. Kolb we are recognizing the potential and enterprise of faculty at small universities like Thompson Rivers University to do world-class research and to build collaborative world-class research centres.



> Ceremony B

Dr. Ian Q. Wishaw
Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*

Dr. Ian Wishaw's research at the Canadian Centre for Behavioural Neurosciences, at the University of Lethbridge is directed toward helping the approximately 60,000 Canadians that suffer some form of brain damage each year. A major effect of brain damage often is the complete or partial loss of the skilled use of a limb.

Dr. Wishaw's research examines how the precise details of bodily movements are influenced by injury or disease to the motor systems of rodents and humans. Wishaw is a Fellow of the Canadian Psychological Association, the American Psychological Association, and the Royal Society of Canada. He is a recipient of a bronze medal from the Canadian Humane Society, a recipient of the Ingrid Speaker Medal for research, and president of Neuro Investigations, Inc.

Along with Bryan Kolb, Wishaw is credited for building a world-class neuroscience centre the Canadian Centre for Behavioural Neurosciences, at the University of Lethbridge. Established in 2001, the centre houses twelve principal investigators, laboratories, vivariums, two MRI's and space for students, technical staff and visiting scientists.

He joined the faculty at University of Lethbridge in 1970. He is currently a Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience and holds a Board of Governors Chair in Neuroscience. He has had visiting appointments at the University of Texas, the University of Michigan, Cambridge University, and the University of Strasbourg, France. He is also a Fellow of Clair Hall, Cambridge.

An accomplished storyteller, Wishaw, along with Kolb, co-authored *Fundamentals of Neuropsychology*. The textbook has been translated into German and Spanish and is now in its sixth printing, is used around the world, and remains the standard work in its field. His collaboration with Kolb has produced two other best-selling standard textbooks on neuroscience and roughly 400 articles and book chapters.

In recognizing Dr. Wishaw we are recognizing the potential and enterprise of faculty at small universities like Thompson Rivers University to do world-class research and to build collaborative world-class research centres.



> Ceremony C

Jann L. M. Bailey
Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*

As executive director of the Kamloops Art Gallery, Jann L. M. Bailey has led the efforts to raise the gallery's stature from a small regional gallery tucked in the basement of the museum into one of BC's principal art galleries.

Ms. Bailey and the KAG were co-researchers with the first Small Cities, Community University Research Alliance in 2001, and she remains a co-researcher with the second CURA research project currently under way.

Arriving in Kamloops in 1987, Ms. Bailey was the tour-de-force that played a key role in the over all direction of the \$10 million capital building project, and its \$1 million capital fundraising campaign that saw the gallery move into its current location in 1998.

The new facility boasts an annual budget upwards of \$1.4 million and oversees and develops a permanent collection of 2,500 plus works all while balancing the demands of nationally touring exhibits with the gallery needs of a small city and growing population of artists and viewers.

Ms. Bailey has received a number of awards. In 1993, she received the Governor General's Canada 125 Award, in 1995 the Y's Woman of Distinction Award in the cultural field, and in 2003, the Queen's Jubilee Medal.

In 2005, along with her colleague Scott Watson from the University of British Columbia's Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery, Ms. Bailey was selected by the Canada Council as commissioner to represent Canada in organizing an exhibition of First Nations Artist Rebecca Belmore at the 51st Venice Biennale. She was also recently appointed as Fellow of the Canadian Museums Association.



David Howe photo

> Ceremony D

bill bissett
Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*

bill bissett is best known for his use of a unique orthography and for incorporating visual elements in his printed poetry, and his performances of "concrete sound" poetry, sound effects, chanting, and barefoot dancing during his poetry readings.

He established blewointment press in Vancouver, an alternative publishing house that existed for 20 years and was among the first in Canada to disseminate the poetry of Margaret Atwood and Michael Ondaatje, along with 200 others.

bissett has been writer-in-residence at the University of New Brunswick and Western University. For many years he has lived part-time in the Cariboo region of British Columbia, which has been the subject of many of his poems.

He has been awarded the Milton Acorn People's Poetry Award, 1990-91, and the Dorothy Livesay BC Book Award for poetry, in 1993 and again in 2003. In 2006, Nightwood Editions published *radiant danse uv being*, a poetic tribute to bissett with contributions from more than 80 writers, including Margaret Atwood and Leonard Cohen. In 2007, bissett was awarded a lifetime achievement award from BC Bookworld. bissett is well connected to Kamloops for his decade of work with the Young Authors Conference (held each year on campus with the school district), his Kamloops poem published in *The Small Cities Book* and his popular readings at then Cariboo College and UCC.

In recognizing bill bissett we are highlighting the importance of empowering individuals through intellectual, cultural, ethical, emotional, social and physical development, and the value of diversity of interests and plurality of cultures among Thompson Rivers University's students and staff. We are noting the value of culture to Canadian society and to education, and recognizing Mr. bissett's considerable efforts and effects in that regard.



Medal Winners 2008



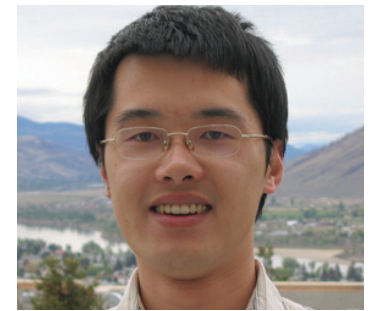
› Governor General's Collegiate Bronze Medal
Cindy Sattleberger
–Accounting Technician Diploma

Cindy, a graduate of Westsyde Secondary in 1977 has given up a long career in daycare for the order of numbers and accounting principles. During her program Cindy won the CGA Award, the Technical Writing Award and a scholarship from Fulton and Company. At a Meet the CGA's event hosted by the School of Business and Economics Cindy met her current employer. Although she is considering laddering her diploma into a Bachelor of Business Administration degree, she is currently focusing on her Auditor Apprenticeship with Revenue Canada and her relocation to Penticton.



› Governor General's Academic Silver Medal
Timothy Graves
–Bachelor of Science

Timothy spent his childhood in Campbell River, later moving with his family to Hope BC. He graduated from Hope Secondary School in 2003, with the Governor General's Award. During his undergraduate career at TRU Timothy has been the recipient of two NSERC research scholarships, his most recent for his postgraduate studies in Mathematics at the University of Alberta. It's not all math and computer science for Timothy though. On Wednesday evenings he volunteers as a youth leader for his church and on the weekend he plays the piano and drums with the Sunday morning worship team.



› University Medal in Computer Science
Guo, Xiang
– Bachelor of Computing Science

Xiang Guo was born in Fuan, in the Fujian Province of China and graduated from NingDe NO.1 Middle School in 2001. He earned a Computer System: Operations and Management (CSOM) diploma from TRU in Wuhan, China in 2003. He came to the Kamloops campus of TRU to gain in-depth knowledge in computing science and has excelled academically during his studies here, having been named to the Dean's List throughout his years in the program. Xiang volunteered with the United Way while working for HSBC Canada as a co-op student. In June he will begin work with Kronos Canadian Systems Inc. and is considering pursuing a master degree in computer science in a few years. He has a passion for the outdoors, enjoying golfing, hiking, and biking.



› University Medal in Arts
Kirby Booker
– English

Kirby was raised on a ranch near 100 Mile House, BC and graduated with honors from Peter Skene Ogden Secondary in 2003. During her undergraduate career at TRU, Kirby has been a research assistant for several projects including CURA. She presented at two undergraduate research conferences, and was involved in the TRU Teaching Practices Colloquium. She's won numerous book prizes for her exceptional grades. She has spent the last month in Turkey, taking a field study course, her second since receiving a CUEF award for Hellenic Studies Field School in 2006. In 2007 she was awarded the Sikh Cultural Society scholarship for achievement in History. During the summer Kirby works as a wildland firefighter. She is also an avid snowboarder, adventurer, and is a member-in-training of the Kamloops Search and Rescue team.



› University Medal in Business Administration
Tiffany Gartner-Bouffard
– Accounting

Tiffany was born in Elliot Lake, Ontario, but more or less grew up in Kamloops, graduating from Kamloops Senior Secondary in 1996, starting her post-secondary studies in accounting at TRU in 2005. She has been an active volunteer in the community, involved with the Kamloops Film Society, Annual Senior Christmas Lights Tour, Ponderosa Lodge, and Arthur Stevenson Elementary. When not studying or volunteering she reads voraciously, enjoys travel, and prior to returning to university, spent a fair amount of time abroad. She enjoys an active lifestyle and spends a great deal of her time outdoors. Tiffany has relocated to Victoria, and plans to pursue her CA designation.



› University Medal in Education
Pam Cairns

Pam was raised in Vancouver, BC, graduating from Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School. Since enrolling in the Bachelor of Education Program, Pam has worked diligently, acquiring the History Excellence Award in 2005 and the University Women's Club Academic Scholarship in 2007. She presented at the 2006 TRU Undergraduate, 2007 Last Best West, and 2008 TRU Undergraduate conferences. This fall she will be a teacher-on-call with the local school district, working towards a full-time position. Teaching children is more than her vocation though, it's how she spends most of her free time as well, either her own kids or volunteering in the community at children's activities.



› University Medal in Fine Arts
Nelina Magliocchi

Nelina came to TRU from St. Ann's with an entrance scholarship in 2004. Each semester she has consistently made the Dean's List for her academic achievements. Although a skilled painter—she has returned to St. Ann's at the end of each school year to paint the graduating class's mural, her mediums of choice are drawing and sculpture. For some she transforms her detailed mechanical pencil drawings into kinetic sculptures that she then creates charming covers for. Nelina will be working on producing her own art as she helps prepare for the annual Art in the Park festivity and her upcoming Curator's Choice show in the Cube at the Kamloops Art Gallery, all on her way to becoming a high school art instructor, with another bachelors degree or a masters degree in art.



› University Medal in Journalism
Jamie Schaab

Jamie grew up in Merritt and started at TRU in 2005, in second year, transferring her first year of university courses from Northern Lights College in Fort St. John to the journalism program at TRU. Jamie has made the most of every opportunity to become competent in all media. She currently hosts Radio NL's Saturday show in Merritt, has done freelance writing for magazines, and completed a summer internship at the Merritt Herald. In 2007 she was a BC Yukon Community News Association essay award recipient, received the Douglas Morelli Memorial Scholarship. This year's Faculty of Arts valedictorian has some real newsroom experience behind her. She has the confidence to plot a career that may include options ranging from public relations, publishing to freelancing. As a newly certified yoga instructor, whatever her future plans entail, they will certainly balance life and work.



› University Medal in Natural Resource Science
Jacqueline Dennett

Jacqueline was raised in Ottawa, Ontario and graduated from Hillcrest High School in 2003. She enrolled in TRU's Natural Resource Science program on the advice of a friend and hasn't regretted earning her degree in the midst of the immense variety of ecosystems in the Kamloops region. A master's degree focusing on ecology and community may be in her future, but for now this avid outdoor person is spending the summer doing fieldwork for the BC Ministry of Forests and exploring some of the many career options available for NRS graduates. In January she is heading to South Africa for an extended backpacking trip. Whatever the future holds it's bound to include world travel, based from her new home province of BC.



› University Medal in Nursing
Tanya Watson Little

This graduate of St. Ann's in 1988 was working at perfecting her caber toss and her family before she started university in 2004. Active in the heavy event competitions of the Highland Games until a knee injury sidelined her a few years ago, Tanya trained extensively with local track and field athletes preparing for the caber toss. During her undergraduate degree she was awarded a CIHR grant for research focused on raising nurses' awareness of their role as global citizens, emphasizing how culture plays a part in health care. She is currently working on her Master of Science in Nursing at TRU (offered in partnership with UBC). Despite great academic and athletic successes, Tanya is most proud of her two beautiful daughters and credits her success to the tremendous support she has received from her kids and husband.



› University Medal in Science
Trenton Kellock
– BSc MMB

Trenton is from Kamloops and graduated from NorKam in 2004. He has majored in Cellular, Molecular and Microbial Biology during his undergraduate studies at TRU, earning and undergraduate research scholarship to investigate viral infections affecting aqua culture. His stellar academic work ethic earned him a steady position on the Dean's List and he was involved in the Biology Student Undergraduate Society. His future plans include medical school at the University of Alberta or UBC, but not before a summer of work and wake boarding then a few months to travel to Southeast Asia and Australia before getting serious about his studies again.



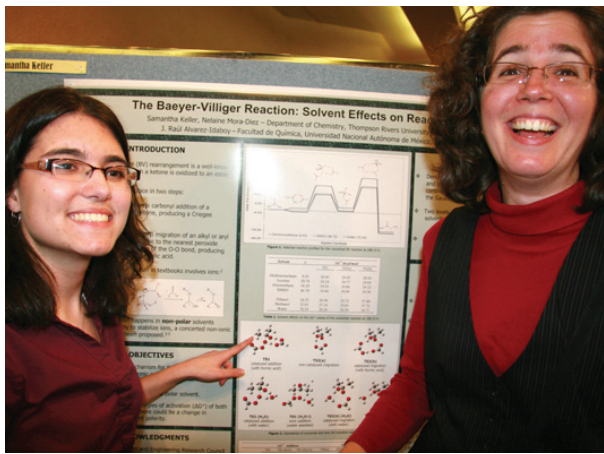
› University Medal in Social Work
Laura Carroll

Raised in Kamloops, Laura attended Kamloops Senior Secondary and started her post-secondary studies in psychology at the University of Victoria and Langara College before coming to TRU and transferring her courses towards a Bachelor of Social Work degree. Consistently making the Dean's List for her scholarship, Laura also volunteered with the White Buffalo Aboriginal Health Society & Resource Centre while she worked on her degree. She is passionate about her work as a mental health and addictions clinician for the Northern Health Authority in Queen Charlotte City, Haida Gwaii. Her future plans include working on either a master's degree in social work or health administration. Either way, her focus will be to work in rural and marginalized communities.



› University Medal in Tourism Management
Janine Keith

Janine was raised in Armstrong, BC and graduated from Pleasant Valley Secondary School in 2000. After two years at Okanagan University College (now UBCO) and a year at UVIC working towards a degree in education, Janine went traveling for nine months to Australia, New Zealand and Southeast Asia. Her experience travelling helped her determine the tourism industry was where she belonged, and she enrolled at TRU in the Events and Conventions Management Diploma (then the BTM degree). In 2007 she took part in TRU's study abroad program on the island of Crete, Greece. The recipient of several scholarships while at TRU, Janine's goal is to be a leading member of the British Columbia tourism industry.



Samantha Keller and Dr. Nelaine Mora-Diez

Molecules, reactions and mechanisms-En Espãna!

by Sadie Cox

Third year chemistry student Samantha Keller will be spending this summer in Spain.

An eight-month co-op work term as a research assistant for chemistry instructor Dr. Nelaine Mora-Diez will make a nice segue for Keller into a semester-long study abroad exchange through TRU World.

Mora-Diez spends her summers researching in the field of Computation Chemistry at the Universidad Autonoma de Madrid (UAM).

After Keller joined the science co-op program in her second year, she and Mora-Diez made arrangements for Keller to do an eight-month work term as a research assistant.

Mora-Diez asked Keller if she'd be interested in coming to Spain too. "I thought about it, and it sounded like a great opportunity—now I'm here in Spain!" said Keller.

Right now the pair is finishing up a project they've been working on for the last four months. "In general though, my work deals with modelling molecules with computer programs," said Keller.

Keller explained that the data is then organized and analyzed to find out things about chemical reactions that are difficult to find out in a laboratory, such as reaction mechanisms and the strengths of individual bonds within a molecule.

Although she's been on her work term since January, Keller has only been in Spain since this spring.

"So far, Madrid has been pretty cool," said Keller. She said that even though the first week was pretty rough with her laptop being stolen right out of her bag, she's really enjoying the university and making new friends who are teaching her Spanish.

"My future plans are to learn enough Spanish to get through my study abroad courses this fall at UAM, then to finish off my chemistry degree at TRU," said Keller. "Later I hope to go on to graduate school to get my PhD so that I can also teach chemistry and do research."



Who's a hit on campus and beyond? ...Owl TV

by Sadie Cox

Physics instructor Mark Paetkau first noticed the horned owls during a department meeting in early March.

A couple of days later, someone in the staff room suggested the idea of putting up a camera.

"I had a web cam and Bob Byrne from Open Learning helped me get it set up on the net," said Paetkau.

"It was something I could do and the technology was there. It was neat how everyone was so excited about it."

The camera was positioned inside the science building at an angle perfect for viewing the daily activities of a female owl and her two young. It turned out to be a big project for Paetkau, who had to check the camera daily.

After the link was posted on TRU's homepage "It was interesting to see how quickly it snowballed," said Paetkau. "It went from friends and family to gaining national attention."

In the last week that the camera was up there were about 30,000 visits. The visits were counted by how much video feed was downloaded—that amounted to roughly one half of a terabyte.

Canada.com reported that TRU Owl TV was the third most popular in the nation, right after Hockey Night in Canada and Corner Gas.

Paetkau hopes to see the owls return next year. "It'll be interesting to see the reaction."

Young Leaders Distinguished Citizen Award

Natalie Lidster, a second-year BSc Nursing student was recently presented with the very first City of Kamloops Young Leaders Distinguished Citizen Award. Natalie, a TRU Ambassador Scholarship recipient serves as student representative on the TRU Foundation Board of Directors and to the College of Registered Nurses of BC. She's been to Nicaragua as a health and medicine volunteer and has been involved in Smart Risk, Drug Awareness and the Kamloops Youth Advisory group of the Kamloops Foundation. This summer Natalie will be working as a student nurse on Galliano Island.



TUT exchange opens Olympic opportunities

by Sadie Cox

Bryan Ortner is one of 19 Canadians working at the BC-Canada Pavilion at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. He'll be working to advertise BC industries like tourism, forestry, mining and transportation.

In his fourth year of the Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) program at TRU, Ortner is majoring in international business and marketing and he wanted to work at the BC-Canada Pavilion to gain more international work experience. He hopes to work with TRU World to market TRU while in China.

A recent press release by the BC government describes the main area of the BC-Canada Pavilion as an "immersive experience where visitors will feel they have crossed the ocean and landed in Canada."

The second floor is a meeting place for those interested in learning more about what BC and Canada have to offer in terms of investment and trade opportunities. Companies from BC have the chance to strut their stuff and form partnerships in the Asian marketplace.

Ortner said this experience wouldn't have been possible if he hadn't gone to China on a previous exchange with the Tianjin University of Technology (TUT) through TRU World.

"It's a little TRU in China," said Jan Petrar, TRU World.

"TUT is an accredited partner with the important distinction that TRU delivers the full BBA program in

China in English. The program is essentially the same as the one here."

While the program has been running at TUT for seven years, the exchange program has only existed for two years. Since then about 15 TRU students have gone to study at TUT.

"If you're a business student, understanding the market in China is extremely important," said Petrar. "China has 3 billion people and is a growing world power."

Many students—like Ortner—go to China to work on their Mandarin.

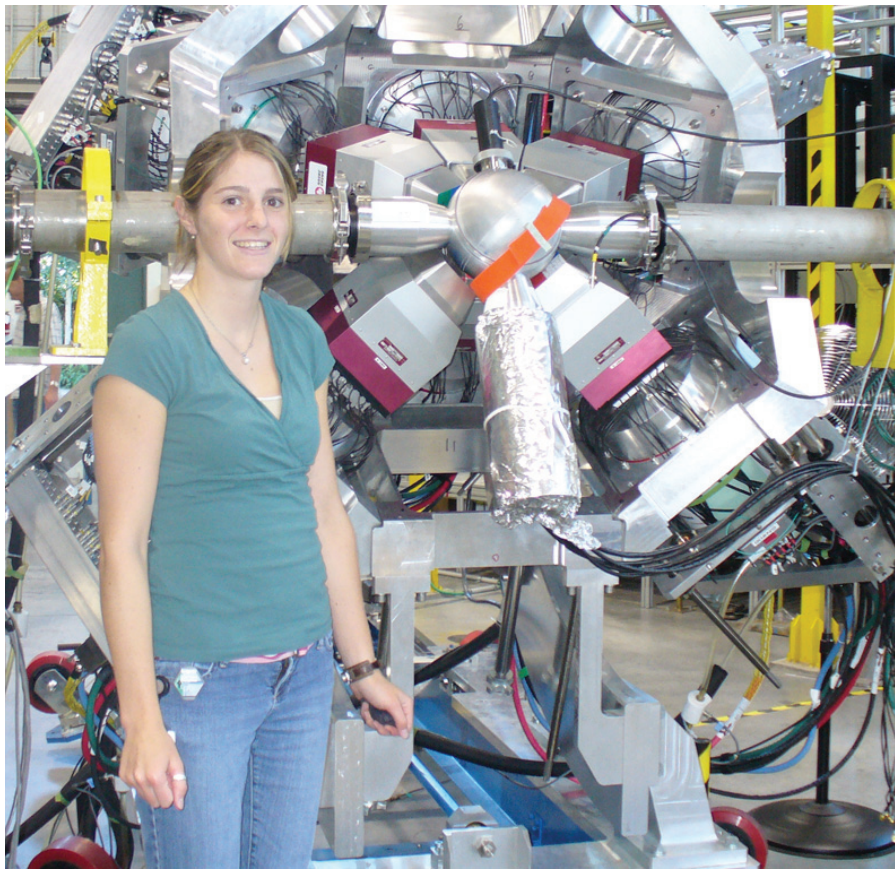
"I would sincerely suggest to all undergraduate students to study or work in another country before choosing their major at school," said Ortner.

Petrar said it's a good, but challenging, experience. Language and cultural differences are only some of the adjustments students have to make. She said the exchange gives students an incredible insight.

"You really have to entrench yourself. Academically, it's a different culture. You're a minority in classes there. I think all the students will remember it forever" Petrar explained.

"I am proud of my university and this is the second time I will have the chance to show what TRU is capable of producing in regards to the calibre of graduates," said Ortner.





Samantha Lloyd poses with the TIGRESS, which stands for TRIUMF ISAC Gamma-ray Escape-suppressed Spectrometer.

The little program that does

by Jamie Schaab

The physics department at TRU isn't big, but the students from the program are doing huge things. "Physics will always remain a small program, but I think we're holding our own," professor Normand Fortier says. "We're producing quality graduates."

A large portion of the program's success is due to the co-op work experience option offered. The students who go the co-op route can broaden their experience with up to four different employers, and that provides a real-world perspective that can't be taught in a classroom.

"It gives them a solid practical experience."

That experience not only allows students to explore various career paths before deciding on which to take, but it also forges relationships between students and potential employers. Samantha Lloyd knows first-hand the benefits of the co-op stream. Lloyd went to work at TRIUMF (a physics research laboratory located on the University of British Columbia campus) for one co-op term last year, and while there was asked to stay on for a second four-month period.

In addition to having Lloyd back this year for a third term, the members also awarded her with TRIUMF's prestigious summer research scholarship. Lloyd says that while the physics program at TRU is small, the curriculum has successfully laid the groundwork for what she aspires to do.

"I'm getting the foundation that I need to go on in research—that is the important part."

Some graduates of TRU's physics program have gone on to land jobs in the technical field, while others have opted to teach at the secondary school level or work at research facilities.

"It really opens a lot of different doors," Fortier says.

Warren Campbell graduated from TRU last year and is entering the masters program in medical physics at the University of Victoria this fall.

"I didn't think I had much of a chance with them," he says.

But not only was Campbell accepted into the program, he was also granted over \$23,000 in scholarships. Campbell credits the one-on-one attention he received from his professors at TRU for piquing his interest in that area of study.

"[Professor Fortier] turned me on to medical physics, which is something I never considered."

During his graduate studies, Campbell plans to focus his research on improving targeted radiation treatments for people who have cancer in places that can't be reached through surgery. In addition to there being a demand for exploration into this area, Campbell is embarking on a very rewarding career that all began in the little physics department at TRU.

TRU Open Learning – Unlocking the possibilities

by Elise Desjardine

Just shy of a mere one year of operations on the Thompson Rivers University (TRU) Kamloops campus, Open Learning (OL) can already claim a multitude of Kamloops-based accomplishments. In its new and progressive home at the British Columbia Centre for Open Learning (BCCOL), the Open Learning division of TRU acknowledges the hard work and dedication of its staff and the achievements of its inaugural year in Kamloops.

Visitors to the BCCOL will see the halls bedecked with vibrant posters displaying images from OL's current advertising campaign. These images, displaying philosophies including "Challenge the Norm" and "Do Something Different," represent the achievements of each OL department as well as the overall accomplishments OL achieved in 2007.

Unlocking the Possibilities to education, OL successfully:

- Hired and trained over 100 people, including both current TRU as well as new staff
- Launched in Kamloops on July 1, 2007 without disturbance to services
- Maintained a focus on the "best interest of the learner"
- Established an Open Learning Program Committee to ensure better OL course and program development
- Established a Strategic Partnership Committee to coordinate OL information and efforts
- Established two Student Advisory Committees to represent and interpret OL student views and needs

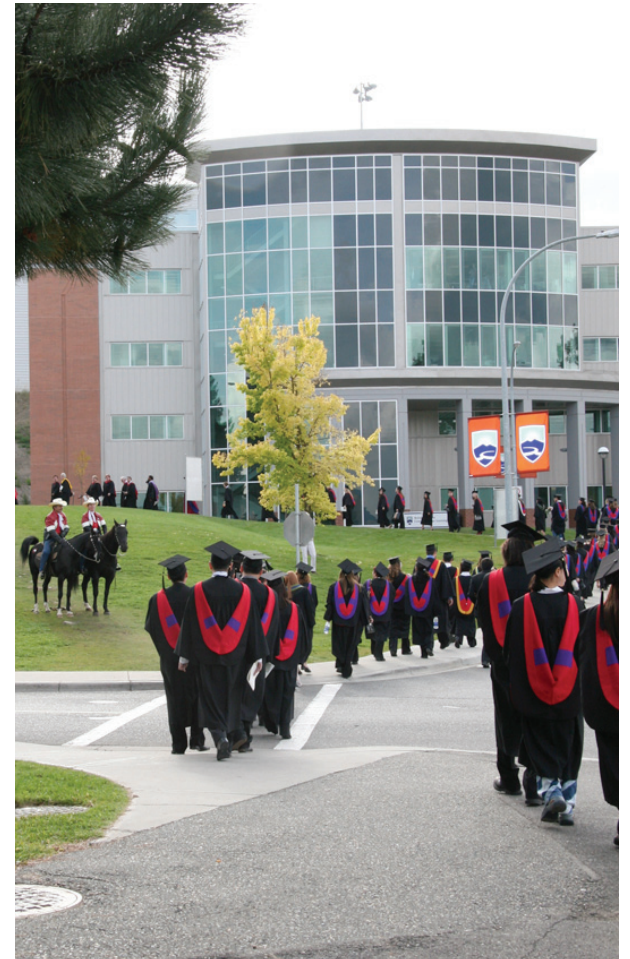
These successes have unlocked the doors of Open Learning to approximately 15,000 online and distance education students, a goal defining TRU-OL as British Columbia's leading distance education provider.

Created in 2005 when TRU assumed ownership of the former BC Open University, the Open Learning division of TRU now offers over 400 individual courses and more than 52 programs to Open Learning students. Approximately 220 courses are designed and delivered by TRU-OL, while another 200 courses are available for registration at consortium institutions including Simon Fraser University (SFU) and the University of Victoria (UVic). The abundant educational options available for completion by distance and online learning include: adult secondary school completion; certificates and diplomas, including advanced and post-baccalaureates; associate degrees; and bachelor's degrees. Programs are offered in the following educational spheres: Adult Basic Education; Arts; Business and Management; Education; General Studies; Health and Human Services; Science; Technology; and Tourism.

Upon completion of a TRU-OL program, students receive a TRU transcript or credential that is fully recognized by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC), of which TRU is a member.

TRU is additionally mandated by the government of BC to provide open learning, which allows students to utilize evidence of academic or professional achievement toward their education at TRU through Prior learning assessment and recognition (PLAR). Students can further receive credits by transferring courses earned at other institutions.

Open Learning helps you reach your educational goals through accessible and varied course structures that can be taken anytime and at an individually-determined pace. Students can organize their specific educational needs and goals with the help of educational service advisors, to fit within the framework of their lives.



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Applying ideas for marks and markets

Carlos Li and Ryan Steele recently presented their concept for a software trading system to peers, faculty and business representatives.

NETIS (News Event and Trend Identification System) is the software trading system they developed in their directed study course work for Quantitative Equity Portfolio Management (QEPM). The course was highly focused on applied learning with the objective of conceptually developing a technical trading strategy, which utilized the concepts of QEPM.

Steel is the valedictorian for Convocation Ceremony B and is graduating with a double degree in Bachelor of Applied Computing Science and Bachelor of Business Administration—Finance.

Li, now in the Bachelor of Computing Science, graduated from CSOM in 2005 and will continue to work on his degree through open and distance options as he begins a full-time position as a software developer with Wenco International Mining Systems Ltd. in Richmond.

Steele and Li designed NETIS to trade an active portfolio with short term investment horizons by creating time-series econometric models, defining dynamic trading rules, and efficiently allocating capital. It is a security-monitoring tool that is constructed around exception-reporting concepts used to pro-actively identify market securities with upward (or downward) price movements within an exchange. The underlying investment strategy revolves around three principles, ordered by importance:

- (1) Money management, specifically, efficient allocation of capital based on relative risk,
- (2) Preservation of capital through objective trading, and
- (3) Identification of opportunistic market entrance and exit points.



Ryan Steele and Carlos Li

In Arts...

- > A trip to Europe and a Double Degree... Students in this one-of-a-kind program will earn a Bachelor of Arts in Geography from TRU and a Bachelor of Science in Geomatics from the University of Gävle in Sweden, all in just five years. In Gävle students add hands-on surveying, digital mapping, and GIS skills to their theoretical knowledge in physical and human geography from TRU. A Double Diploma option is also available. FMI Ross Nelson at 250.828.6446.
- > Innovative and Interdisciplinary... TRU is committed to flexibility, and the university is once again a trailblazer vis-à-vis customizing education. A Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies (BIS) starts up this Fall, targeting both 1st year students and diploma graduates who are seeking a highly unique degree. BIS students may combine woodworking with sculpture, or marketing with photography...it's all determined through individual assessment. A Master in Interdisciplinary Studies is also under development. FMI Kate Sutherland at 250.371.5557.

Major and Minor news in the Arts...

- > TRU's new Philosophy major offers more than just Q&A on the meaning of life, it'll provide a solid foundation for a career in law: Philosophy grads have a proven track record of successful entry into law school.
- > Arts and Business Management are a solid combination, just ask the five 2008 Arts graduates who completed a minor in Management, available in the Arts as of last year. A Sociology major with a business inclination chose HR electives while another student finds it great preparation for a TRU Post-Baccalaureate in Business Administration.
- > Looking ahead: Minors in Gender Studies and Anthropology in 2009.

In Computing and Advanced Technology...

- > It's all in a name... The Architectural & Engineering Technology Diploma (ARET) (formerly known as Engineering Design and Drafting Technology) has undergone a name change for more accurate representation. The three year program provides graduates with technical skills required to enter careers in Building Architectural Technology or Civil or Mechanical fields.
- > Electronics Technology... After one year of core electronics, students can elect for their second year to be one of two newly revamped electronics programs: Automation Electronics Technology (AMET), which focuses on computer-controlled industrial systems, or Telecommunications Networking Technology (TNET), which focuses on telecommunications equipment and systems.

In Science/Health Science...

- > Breathing new life into the Respiratory Therapy program: Students can now complete two credentials in four years. Respiratory Therapy students can choose a new "dual credential" option that allows them to complete their RT diploma and earn a Bachelor of Health Science degree (B.H.Sc.) in a four-year program. FMI Dave Sheets at 250.828.5465. *Quick fact* > For every RT graduate, there are two jobs (TRU Faculty of Science).

In Adventure Tourism...

- > Expanding Adventure... The TRU Adventure Studies Department created two new programs to complement the intense Adventure Guide Diploma, creating more choices for students interested in Adventure. The eight month Adventure Sports Certificate is an introduction to the industry, while the two year Adventure Management Diploma provides a broad background in managing adventure activities.

In Business...

- There's a lot going on in the TRU School of Business and Economics (SOBE), just have a look at these programs under development:
- > Aboriginal community connections: Look for the Certificate in First Nations Applied Economics and the Certificate in First Nations Public Administration in Taxation soon. *Quick fact* > TRU strives to be the university of choice for Aboriginal, Metis, and First Nation students, and currently over 700 TRU students self-identify within these groups.
- > Broadening horizons... a Bachelor of Public Administration Degree is in the works. Look for this program to be offered through TRU-Open Learning.

Major and Minor news in Business...

- > An Adventure in Business... the Adventure Management major and minor within the BBA will add an exciting option for business students and will help support the business and entrepreneurial dimension of the adventure industry.
- > Money Matters: Minor in Financial Markets and Institutions coming soon.

Cross-disciplinary Majors and Minors in the works...

- > The numbers game... a major in Mathematics & Economics will soon be available in both the Bachelor of Arts and Science programs
- > Going Green... Students in the Bachelor of Arts, Science, Business, Tourism Management, and Natural Resource Science degree programs will soon have the choice of adding a minor in Environmental Economics & Sustainable Development.

Jolene Landygo, Laura Hirtz, Kelsley Ladner

> School of Nursing

Nursing students Jolene Landygo, Laura Hirtz and Kelsley Ladner won a gold medal at the 2007 Ava Awards for their video "Understanding Type 1 Diabetes." Produced to inform teachers and student peers in School District #73, the project was part of Nursing 351—Health Promotion and Community Development. Ava awards are administered and judged by the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals.

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The School of Nursing has been part of TRU since the institution's earliest days, and last month, coinciding with Florence Nightingales' birthday, the SDN held an informal reception in the Horticulture Gardens to celebrate Nursing Week.

"It was an opportunity to acknowledge our excellent faculty as teachers and researchers," Dr. Susan Duncan, Dean of Nursing said, "and to celebrate the nurses who practice in our community, delivering excellent care every day and delivering excellent education to our students."

Discovery in action: Student and faculty research awards & achievements

by Bronwen Scott

TRU's goal to be the university of choice for the integration of research and scholarship with teaching and learning means that TRU appreciates that teaching and research do not exist as separate entities at a university. Rather, they are inseparably connected, passing on to students the skills, curiosity and confidence to push the limits of knowledge.

In the past year, Amber Greenall, a graduate of TRU and now a graduate student in the first cohort of TRU's Master of Science in Environmental Sciences program, and Chad Stewart, who graduated with a TRU Bachelor of Science degree in 2007, were awarded Canada's top national graduate student scholarships from Canada's premier sciences and engineering granting agency, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC).

TRU graduate student Richard Klafki was featured on Episode 1 of the Knowledge Network's "The Leading Edge: Innovation in BC VI," which promotes top BC researchers and their discoveries. The show highlighted his work with badger populations in the Cariboo.

External funding for competitive research grants, contracts and endowments continues to grow and is anticipated to approach \$10 million in 2008-09. Faculty members Karl Larsen, Jon Van Hamme, Cindy Ross-Friedman, Nela Mora-Diez, Roelof Brouwer, Mila Kwiatkowska, Robb Fry, Rick Brewster, Roger Yu, Kingsley Donkor, Sean McGuinness, Darryl Carlyle-Moses, Roger Yu, Louis Gosselin and Lauch Fraser, currently hold prestigious grants from NSERC

for investigations related to ecology, biochemistry, computing, computational chemistry, pharmacology, and mathematics.

TRU faculty members Lynne Wiltse and Julie Drolet were among the elite of Canadian researchers awarded grants from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), and have joined the success of their colleague Will Garrett-Petts who continues collaborative research that is part of a \$1 million SSHRC grant to investigate quality of life in small cities.

Canada Research Chair Lauchlan Fraser is one of the select researchers invited to present his work at the BC-Canada research showcase in Beijing, China in May, to promote the calibre and diversity of BC research. In the past year TRU faculty have produced over 200 publications including articles, books and conference presentations, in addition to mentoring 36 undergraduate students who presented papers at academic conferences, of whom six won awards, and five students co-authored scholarly articles for publication in peer-reviewed journals.

TRU researchers also engaged in joint research and innovation transfer initiatives with community groups, governmental and non-governmental organizations, and universities across Canada and internationally.

TRU is rapidly achieving national and international recognition for being at the cutting edge of new knowledge creation and making it possible for students to be part of that discovery.

Internationalization of the Curriculum: Learning in a Global Context

by Penny Heaslip

The Centre for Teaching and Learning has coordinated an initiative in response to the strategic plan which states "the university's new plan reflects both the dynamic nature of the communities it serves and the changing needs of its students, alumni, faculty and staff... and that it recognizes a responsibility to respond to the educational, cultural and social needs of the communities it serves." More specifically, TRU will "engage students in the quest for world citizenship through ...cultural learning opportunities, in a respectful and inclusive environment that provides a better understanding and appreciation of our global community."

Internationalization of the curriculum is about educators engaging with student needs in relation to the world they will graduate into. Internationalizing curriculum strives to prepare all students with the intercultural and international perspectives they will need to succeed as citizens and professionals in today's global environment.

The "International 'Eyesing' the Curriculum" program addressed the commitment to review curricula to identify courses and programs and where it is appropriate to incorporate international perspectives and increase awareness of global issues. Considering curriculum with new eyes will be a benefit to domestic students in preparing them for them for the global work environment. The Association for Universities and Colleges of Canada notes "Preparing Canadians for the future requires new knowledge, new skills, new approaches, and new attitudes, none of which will be as complete or pertinent without an international dimension to our education."

Roger Barnsley, quoted in an AUCC Roundtable, stated that: "There are any number of compelling reasons for Canadian institutions to pursue international activities. The benefits for our students, our institutions, our local communities and our country are well documented. International engagement opens the door to a wide range of economic, cultural, and scholarly exchange—an interchange that only becomes more vibrant and

more necessary in our increasingly interconnected global society. Internationalization, therefore, is a pathway to global citizenship for both our institutions and our students."

The facilitators for this event were Emma Bourassa and Kyra Garson of TRU, Neil Smith from the Malaspina University College (recently renamed Vancouver Island University) and Todd Odgers from Norquest College.

Internationalization by the numbers

- 12 months: the length of time since beginning internationalization initiatives
- 173, 180 and 598: number of faculty, staff and students respectively, that have participated in intercultural awareness/sensitivity and communication sessions.
- 19: The number of TRU instructors from 16 departments participating in the "International 'Eyesing' the Curriculum" professional development sessions.



Students, dignitaries and donors at TRU School of Trades and Technology for the \$6.94 million announcement in March.

Advancement News

› May 2008

The 15th Annual Pineridge Charity Golf Tournament was another success, this event is the major fundraiser for the TRU Alumni Association. The event sold out this year, raising over \$8,200 to support programs and services for both graduates and current students of TRU.

› April 2008

The Government of Canada is helping to strengthen research and development innovation and technology commercialization capabilities through federal funding toward research infrastructure at TRU.

Federal funding of \$954,000 was announced for two projects at TRU by Betty Hinton, Member of Parliament for Kamloops-Thompson-Cariboo, on behalf of the Honourable Rona Ambrose, President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and Minister of Western Economic Diversification.

› March 2008

This month saw the single largest donation for student awards in the history of Thompson Rivers University, Okanagan College, Selkirk College and College of the Rockies. Students entering a wide range of trades, technology and academic programs at the four institutions will have access to \$6.94 million in support over the next three years.

The total package includes a \$2.4 million fund for Post-Secondary Trades and Technology Awards, a \$1.5 million fund for Secondary School Awards, along with a \$3.04 million fund supporting research, innovation and entrepreneurship to be jointly funded by the Southern Interior Development Initiative Trust (SIDIT) and Innovation Development of BC Innovation Council, who contributed \$1.52 million each.

9 | ACHIEVEMENTS › 2008

Nathan Matthew

› Aboriginal Education

Dr. Nathan Matthew received the 2008 Award of Recognition from the BC School Superintendents Association in May for his outstanding contributions to support and enhance public school education in the Province of British Columbia.

Jeanette Murray

› Nursing

Jeanette Murray has been selected to receive a Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) Centennial Award. The awards recognize 100 exceptional Canadian Registered Nurses whose personal contributions have made an outstanding and significant impact of the nursing profession. In Jeanette's case that has been her work on the National Registered Nurse Exam (CRNE) where she provided significant leadership and rigor in establishing evaluation processes.

Peter J. Murphy

› English and Modern Languages

Dr. Murphy presented a paper on Joyce's influence on Beckett's Post-Trilogy works at Regent's College, Oxford, May 2007, in the on-going lecture series, "Beckett: Debts and Legacies." This paper was derived from his forthcoming study (November, 2008), Beckett's *Dedalus: Dialogical Engagements with Joyce in Beckett's Fiction* (University of Toronto Press). He is also currently working with Nick Pawliuk on the writing and editing of a collection of essays on Images of Beckett in Popular Culture. His major work in progress is Beckett's *Prisons: Resisting Cultural Penologies*, a SSHRC Standard Grant supported project.

Sharon Simpson

› Nursing

Sharon Simpson was honored by the College of Registered Nurses of British Columbia (CRNBC) at an awards ceremony in April. She received an Award of Excellence in Nursing Education.

Susan Duncan

› School of Nursing

Dean Susan Duncan was elected to the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing Board of Directors. She will serve as a Western Region Director until 2009.

Erin Pietrasik

› Resort & Hotel Management

The Canadian Tourism Human Resource Council announced that Erin Pietrasik is the winner of the Discover Tourism Win a Dream Job contest. She was recognized by the largest liaison council for the tourism industry from hundreds of candidates across the country. Her Dream Job choice was at the Delta Sun Peaks.

Dr. Gordon Gore

› 2007 Honorary Degree

Local science booster Gordon Gore receives honorary membership in the Province's top technology association, Applied Science Technologies & Technicians of British Columbia.

Carmen Rodd, Kyle O'Scienny

› Respiratory Therapy Program

Carmen Rodd and Kyle O'Scienny, Respiratory Therapy graduates in 2007, have taken the top honours of the 400 individuals who wrote the Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists certification examination in January. Rodd won the Gold Medal Award while O'Scienny took the Silver Medal Award. These medals are presented annually to the individuals who obtain the highest ranking and second highest ranking respectively in the country on the CSRT certification examination.

Lauchlan Fraser

› Natural Research Sciences

Dr. Fraser is supervising the research of Lisa DeSandoli, a MSc Botany candidate at UBC who has been awarded the Julie Payette-NSERC Research award for \$25,000 for her research project "Fire as a management tool for the maintenance of biodiversity in rangeland."

Jenn Pallett, Raizy Marmorstein, Andrea Smith and Fredrik Elf

› School of Tourism

This team of first and second year Tourism students won first prize in the recent 2008 Tourism – Hospitality BC Student Case competition. Jenn Pallett, Raizy Marmorstein, Andrea Smith and Fredrik Elf won the case challenge "How to Attract and Retain Generation Y Employees," taking top honours in the diploma level, tourism category over competing teams from University of Victoria, BCIT and Capilano College. The students won a \$1000 prize and the recognition of the industry attendees.

School of Journalism Alumni

Dana Johnson (2001), Christina Myers (2003) and Mark MacDonald (2005), won honours for their community newspaper reporting. They received awards at the Better Newspapers Competition (BNC) Banquet on May 9 in Toronto at the 89th annual Canadian Community Newspapers Association (CCNA) National Convention.

WolfPack wins Founder's Cup

BC Colleges' Athletic Association (BCCA) presented the Founder's Cup to the WolfPack, recognizing TRU as the institution with the best improvement in aggregate points from the previous season. Each team and athlete are given points based on their overall finish, and the WolfPack captured the Cup garnering 9 points over the 2007-08 campaign.

Cindy Ross-Friedman

› Biological Sciences

Dr. Ross-Friedman is supervising the research of Chad Stewart, a MSc candidate of the University of Saskatchewan, who has been awarded a Master's level Canada Graduate Scholarship. Valued at \$17,500 (for one year) the NSERC prize is for his research project "The Search for Aquaporin Genes in the Dwarf Mistletoe: If present, do they play a role in the water-driven process of explosive discharge?"

Ginny Ratsoy

› English and Modern Languages

Ginny Ratsoy's article "Dramatizing Alterity: Relational Characterization in Postcolonial British Columbia Plays" will appear in a peer-reviewed collection edited by Dunja M. Mohr entitled *Embracing the Other: Addressing Xenophobia in the New Literatures in English*, published by Rodopi Press of Amsterdam (Spring, 2008).

Warren Asuchak

› Facilities Services

Warren was successful in obtaining his Canadian Certified Parking Facilities Manager Designation from the Canadian Parking Association in conjunction with the National Parking Association (NPA). The designation of CPFM is becoming well known in Canada and has become a respected standard in the USA to measure the knowledge and understanding that candidates have of the parking industry.

Ila Crawford

› Instructor, Visual and Performing Arts

Ila Crawford had a solo exhibition, *Matrixial Encounters*, at the Vernon Public Art Gallery January 10 through February 29. In addition she installed her MFA graduating exhibition, at the UBCO Fine Arts Gallery January 25 through to February 8.

Dion Thevarge

› BSN 1998

TRU School of Nursing Alumnus Dion Thevarge was presented with a Canadian Nurses Association 'A Nurse to Know Centennial Achievement Award' by Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Health Minister Tony Clement. Thevarge is program manager for Healing Our Spirits, BC's Aboriginal HIV/AIDS Society, Injury Prevention Program, funded by Health Canada's First Nations and Inuit Health Branch. He was one of 14 award recipients recognized for their significant contribution to the health of Canadians and the health system in general.



› Teaching Excellence Awards 2008

Dave Tomkins

› Mathematics & Statistics

Dave Tomkins' philosophy for teaching is to show the students that if he is having a good time doing statistics, maybe his students can too. It seems to be working. During his 20 years at the university Dave has consistently received extremely high student evaluations. He tackles the issue of "Math Phobia" head-on with a unique ability to relate course material to everyday life. With his use of Pepsi taste challenges, and something involving a baseball bat and a stuffed frog in his class to illustrate academic concepts, his teaching methods are often described by his students and colleagues as creative. Besides the high praise he receives from students, Dave also provides leadership in his department with regards to curriculum development and course revision and he mentors faculty, students and community members, supporting their research and other endeavours—all experiences that will be reflected in the text book that he is currently writing.

Phillip Schettini

› Tourism

Just last month the students of the School of Tourism presented Philip Schettini with the TRU faculty leadership award at their third annual Tourism Awards. It is a fitting highlight to a career that has spanned 20 years at this university. As one of his student notes, "his instructional techniques may not be conventional, but they are effective." He expects fourth year students in his Resort Management class to comprehend advanced business concepts and be able to apply them to real life situations. Each student presents a resort business plan to a panel of real world industry investors, a high-pressure project netting results that extend far beyond letter grade. One student says, "by nominating Phillip Schettini for this award I thank him for the education, motivation and mentoring he has provided me through my education at TRU. He has made my university experience unique and valuable."

Hasnat Dewan

› Economics

Being available for extra help—beyond office hours, knowing each student's name, providing real life examples and presenting material in a clear and organized way are some of the comments reiterated on the nomination letters sent in by dozens of students on Dr. Hasnat Dewan's behalf. "Hasnat is passionate about his job and the welfare of his students. Class is more than a class, it's an experience," one nominator said. Although this Yale Fulbright Scholar has only been at this university for eight years he has made quite an impression. In 2005 he received the Distinguished Alumni Award for Teaching Excellence, the SOBE Teaching Excellence award and was nominated for Master Teacher—remarkable achievements for an assistant professor with a simple teaching philosophy—students first.

› TRU Award for Excellence in Scholarship 2008

Louis Gosselin

Since his arrival at TRU in 1997, Associate Professor of Biology Dr. Louis Gosselin has published 18 peer-reviewed scientific articles, one of which has been cited over 160 times in peer-reviewed publications, presented at 14 conferences in North America and Europe, and supervised the research of 26 students.

David Scheffel

Since coming to TRU in 1986, Professor of Anthropology Dr. David Scheffel has published four books with another in progress, has directed a CIDA-funded project in Slovakia, consulted on three films related to his research interests, published 17 peer-reviewed and 29 other articles and reviews, and presented 39 papers at conferences, universities or public forums in North America and Europe.



Dave Tomkins, left, Phillip Schettini and Hasnat Dewan accept their 2008 Teaching Excellence Awards from TRU President and Vice-Chancellor Roger Barnsley (Centre), VP Academic and Provost Mark Evered, and Chancellor Nancy Greene Raine

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10 | STAFF AWARDS › 2008

Distinguished Service Awards 2008

Davina Neve

› Disability Services

Davina Neve is a support staff member who goes above and beyond the expectations of the job. She provides innovation in her ability to adapt service for each individual student and in her skill in working with other departments, as well as community and government agencies. She enriches campus life "going the extra mile" by considering her students' circumstances and being sensitive to their needs. She is always willing to help, aiding in wellness by encouraging staff to go for walks and keeping staff meetings light with her laughter. She is recognized as the "go-to person" who conducts her self professionally, working through the various departmental changes and challenges and providing consistent service and support and mentorship.

Ron Lakes

› Open Learning

Ron Lakes exemplifies a great tutor by enhancing the working environment for other tutors. As a shop steward he is usually successful in bringing parties together in effective negotiation and has worked diligently over the years to lobby for improvements in how things are done.

Josh Keller

› Marketing & Communications

Josh Keller is the administrative staff member who is known as TRU's ambassador to the world with a primary professional philosophy to enhance TRU's image. He is well-respected among his peers and both the provincial and local media, as he works tirelessly to promote the university. He has enriched campus life with his open door policy and his practice of encouraging aboriginal recruitment and providing assistance whenever and wherever needed. This same open approach with the students and the community has earned him respect from the business community, regional agencies and other post-secondary institutions. He spearheaded the idea for the Back To School BBQ and is often promoting the university for its conference and event facilities as well as its educational opportunities.

Maria MacIntosh

› School of Nursing

Maria MacIntosh, from the Faculty of Nursing, recognized the need for educational programs in the field of home support care and uses innovative strategies to engage students and increase course registrations. She enriches campus life as an advocate for students and patients, instantiating and organizing social events for faculty, and showing attention to detail and personal interest and care in students. She is a mentor, teacher and role model, and is known for her commitment and endless energy to the program in which she works, motivating others and being generous with her time and knowledge. She enhances TRU's reputation in her leadership role at the provincial level and with her constant support for the needs for educational programming throughout the region. Her positive relationships with agencies are also demonstrated by a letter of support from the Interior Health Authority.



Josh Keller, left, Davina Neve, Ron Lake and Maria MacIntosh, accept their 2008 Distinguished Service Awards from TRU President and Vice-Chancellor Roger Barnsley and Chancellor Nancy Greene Raine



Where To From Here: Life After Roger

In the warmth of the early June sun, thousand of students with their families and friends are once again converging on the campus of Thompson Rivers University. They are here to celebrate their achievements and formally receive their degrees, diplomas or certificates from the assembled dignitaries and academic leaders who fill the stage.

For one particular academic leader, it will be an emotional celebration. TRU President, Dr. Roger Barnsley retires later this summer after 10 years at the helm of what can only be called an incredible transition in post-secondary education. As he dons the ceremonial robes one last time and shakes the hands of the many amazing men and women who will carry the legacy of this university forward, there's no doubt a few tears will be shed.

His departure in late August will mark the end of an era of change for the institution. On Barnsley's watch we have witnessed and embraced the transformation from university-college to what is now the fourth largest provincial university, which is also one of, if not the most, comprehensive universities in the nation.

His administration has overseen the most ambitious capital spending program in the history of the Kamloops and Williams Lake campuses. In addition, the Barnsley era has seen the acquisition of the former BC Open University as part of the university initiative, major growth in the scope of international activities, including the implementation of Study Abroad and the addition of master degree programs. TRU today offers students almost 200 different certificate, diploma and degree options.

"When I assumed the presidency of Thompson Rivers University I was familiar with the institution and its reputation for comprehensiveness," Dr. Barnsley recalled about his arrival in Kamloops in 1997. He had spent the year prior to his appointment as president at TRU on sabbatical from St. Mary's University in Halifax at the University of British Columbia. There, he had several discussions with other Canadian university administrators about the depth of programming being offered at the university college level.

"When I arrived here the Campus Activity Centre (built in 1993) was then being hailed as the model for innovative expansion, the new Trades and Technology Centre had been recently built and the former trades space in Old Main was being completely renovated. That was quite unusual as these projects were being completed during those years when other institutions in the province hadn't been able to realize big capital improvements."

Barnsley also discovered that the culture of entrepreneurial growth was part of many activities on campus, not just major capital ventures.

"I'd go up to the trades building and see that the trade students had gone out into the field and found a large dilapidated piece of forestry equipment, dragged it back to the shop, reconditioned it, sold it and made a few thousand bucks to reinvest in equipment or tools for their programs.

"The leadership at the university prior to my arrival had set the tone of dynamism and entrepreneurship; building a culture at the institution that remains self-reliant with a focus on improving – that is our university's hidden jewel," said Barnsley.

It was that spirit that led the faculty in Culinary Arts to create a restaurant that is the only culinary school restaurant recognized as one of the 150 best places to eat in Canada and for the faculty throughout the institution to establish research programs.

"That is the kind of innovation that you don't find in all institutions and it excited me when I realized it was so prevalent throughout the university," said Barnsley.

"To see the quality of the TRU faculty, even prior to becoming a university, has been very satisfying," he added. "TRU has developed strong scholarship and good community outreach and remained incredibly teaching-focused, that's the core of the university. And out of that we've been able to develop a really strong research profile"

"Success breeds success... and it's that dynamism of growth that is embedded in the culture here that has created TRU World and it is why our international programs are so far ahead of other institutions."

He credits the collaborative relationships between TRU World, the School of Business and Economics and the English as a Second Language department in Student Development for the growing internationalization of campus. Along with TRU's Study Abroad program, he sees as providing tremendous opportunities for students.

As he retires, the process that brought about the creation of Canada's most comprehensive university not only leaves us with his legacy but it also begs the question, where do we go from here?

The presidential search is on, but regardless of who's at the wheel, the road ahead for TRU and the rest of our post-secondary system will be challenging. Our economy, demographics and the continued evolution, or perhaps more accurately, revolutions

in technology are already taking centre stage in the world of education and training.

There's an inverse relationship between the economy and post-secondary education. The stronger our economy with more jobs and better wages, the fewer the number of people there are to attend college or university. Similarly, students already attending are more prone to leaving for extended periods of time, especially when that same economic cycle of prosperity is driving up the cost of an education.

Our provincial post-secondary system is also facing the challenge of changing population. There are declining numbers of students in our high schools, and fewer people overall living in rural communities around the province as Greater Vancouver continues to grow. Our population is also aging, meaning more demand for government to invest in health care rather than education.

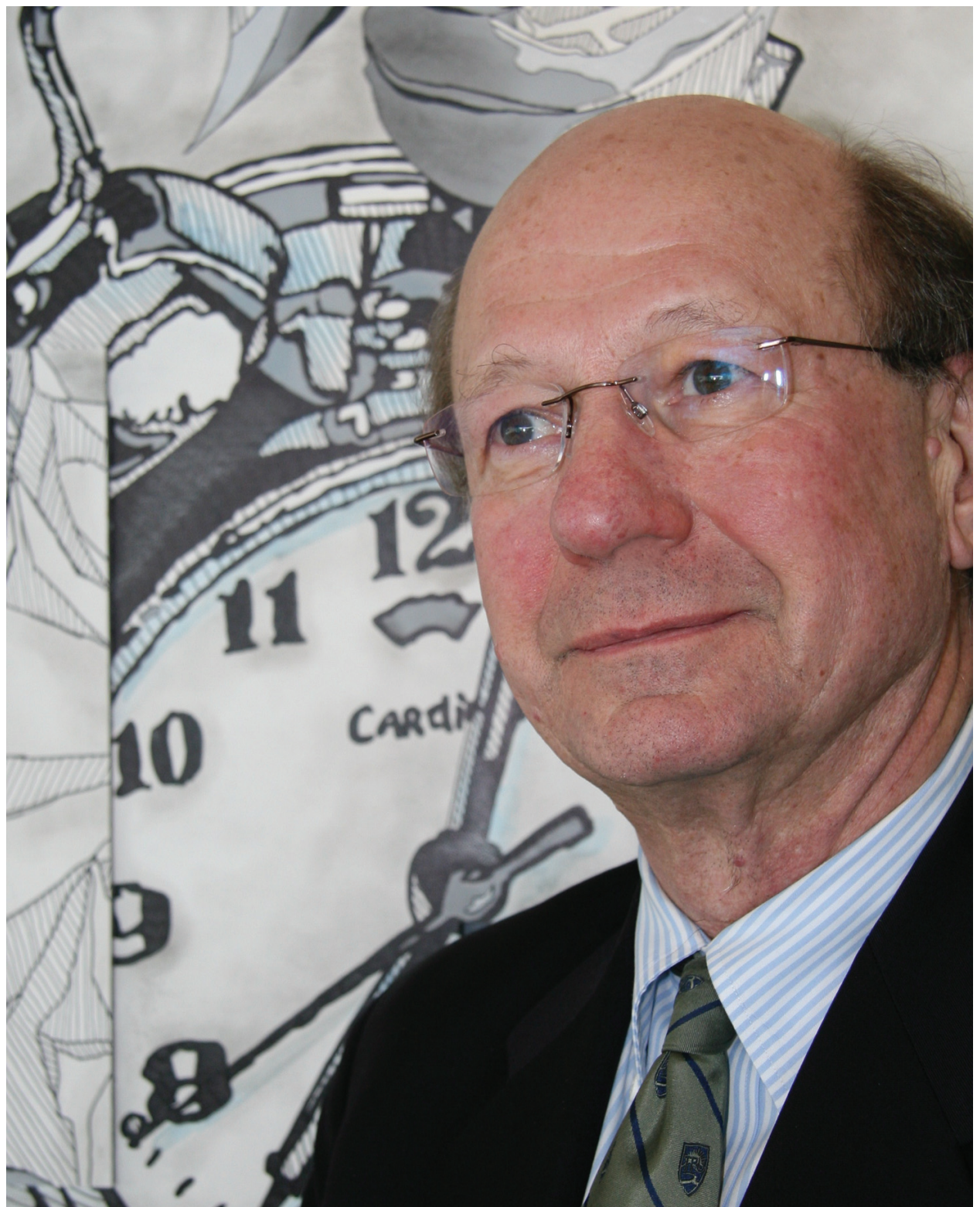
It's a Catch-22, a health care system that needs more educated workers, yet even with funding to train them, in most cases the students aren't there to be trained. For TRU, enticing students to leave the urban jungle for an education in the quieter environs of Kamloops is no easy task, and one made more difficult by the cost implications of leaving home.

The good news in all of this is that, like it or not, the cycle will eventually repeat itself: the economy will slow down, more people will enter or return to education, and there might even be a few line-ups at the registration windows again.

However, these are not matters for Roger Barnsley to contemplate or worry about any longer, because retirement is taking him away from all that. Those of us who have been privileged to share the last decade with him here on campus will be among those shedding a tear this Convocation.

"To see the quality of the TRU faculty, even prior to becoming a university, has been very satisfying. TRU has developed strong scholarship and good community outreach and remained incredibly teaching-focused, that's the core of the university. And out of that we've been able to develop a really strong research profile."

Dr. Roger Barnsley



Individual and team award winners

Sports Task Force Athlete of the Year:

- › Male: Brian Smith – Basketball
- › Female: Sara Cameron – Basketball

Dr. Roger H. Barnsley, Scholar Athlete of the Year Award:

- › Male: James Byra – Soccer
- › Female: Cari Sutcliffe – Soccer

Athlete of the year:

- › Male: Garrett Babichuk
Badminton
- › Female: Shannon Meyer
Badminton

BCCAA All Conference Awards

- › First Team Soccer–Women’s
Val Godard
Shantelle Cooper
Shannon Meyer
Cari Sutcliffe
- › First Team Soccer–Men’s
James Byra
Hatem Abdulghader
Stu Jameson
- › Second Team Soccer–Women’s
Shannon Kelly
- › Second Team Soccer–Men’s
Adam Dodgson
- › Rookie of the Year Soccer–Women’s
Cari Sutcliffe
- › Rookie of the Year Soccer–Men’s
Stu Jameson
- › Coach of the Year:
Brad Pape – Badminton

Canada West All Stars, Men’s Volleyball

- › Second Team: Robin Schoebel
- › Rookie of the Year: Gord Perrin

BCCAA Provincial All Stars, Men’s Soccer

- › Best Goalkeeper: Allan Connor
- › MVP: Allan Connor
- › Best Defender: James Byra

BCCAA Provincial Medalists Badminton

- › Men’s Singles: Bronze
Noah Woods
- › Mixed Doubles: Bronze
Alex Perkin & Ming Wong
- › Women’s Doubles: Silver
Quinie Song & Marlee Mertens
- › Men’s Doubles: Silver
Grant Babichuk & Andy Chu
- › Men’s Soccer: Gold

Canada West Medalists

Men’s Volleyball – Bronze

CIS National Tournament Medalists

Men’s Volleyball – Bronze

BCCAA Athletes of the Week

- › Kim Hogg
- › Allan Connor
- › Women’s Soccer
- › Stu Jameson

CCAA Athlete of the Month

- › Garrett Babichuk
Badminton

CCAA National Tournament

- › Championship All Stars
Haten Abdulghader
James Byra
- › Men’s Soccer

CIS National

Championship All Stars

- › Gord Perrin – Men’s Volleyball

CCAA All–Canadian Awards

- › Shannon Meyer – Women’s Soccer

CCAA Coach of the Year

- › Brad Pape – Badminton

CIS All–Canadian Awards

- › Gord Perrin – All Rookie Team
Men’s Volleyball

CCAA Academic

All–Canadian Awards

- › Cari Sutcliffe – Women’s Soccer
- › James Byra – Men’s Soccer



WolfPack Men’s Volleyball

2008 Canadian Inter University Sports National Bronze medal winners in Laval, Quebec

WolfPack athletes named for prowess in classroom and in sport

Getting top grades while playing competitive sports is a very difficult balancing act. For 13 members of the Thompson Rivers University WolfPack Athletic program, they’re balancing act received national attention.

The dozen-plus WolfPack Athletes were named either Canadian College Athletic Association or Canadian Interuniversity Sport Scholar-Athletes by achieving a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.50.

Four of the honoured athletes are members of the Women’s Volleyball Team—Stine Christiansen (Ribe, Denmark), Tanis Hoeltgen (Langley BC), Marilia Vasconcellos (Jundiai, Brazil) and Taylor Hall (Burnaby, BC).

“I’m very proud of the girls,” Women’s Volleyball WolfPack coach Carrie Barrett said. “It’s really hard to be a top notch student and athlete. Success in the classroom is one of the key points I look at when I recruit young women. Thompson Rivers University has the programs in place to help all athletes be a success in school.

I’m just playing a small part in steering them in the right direction.”

Badminton was second in the number of athletes achieving lofty academic marks: Brennan Arduini (Kamloops BC), Ema Salja (Kamloops, BC) and Venita Colton (Kamloops, BC) also received awards.

Women’s Soccer and Women’s Basketball each had two scholar athletes. Soccer players Cari Sutcliffe (Kamloops BC) and Alex Muzzin (Coquitlam, BC) were CCAA Scholar-Athletes. Kayla Forsyth (Vernon BC) and Alix Stupich (Ladysmith, BC) were named CIS All Academics.

The other WolfPack Athletes being honoured were Brent Hall of Red Deer, Alberta (Men’s Volleyball) and Mike Tomlinson of Campbell River BC (Baseball).

“Its another example of what our program is all about, top calibre athletes who are first-rate students. These are people who’ll go out into our society once they graduate and make a difference,” TRU Athletic Director Ken Olynyk said.



WOLF PACK

THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY > KAMLOOPS, BC

Graduating players become giving players Giving back by becoming assistant coaches

There will be a number of familiar faces on the sidelines at next year’s Thompson Rivers University WolfPack Basketball and Volleyball games. Several graduating players have elected to stay with the program in the roles of Assistant Coaches.

Brian Smith (Maple Ridge, BC) will help coach the men’s basketball team for the 2008-09 campaign. Lauren Stockstad (Surrey, BC) is set to assist with the women’s volleyball team while Tim Flannigan (Prince George, BC) and Tony Zylstra (Edmonton, Alta) are poised to assist with the CIS Bronze medal winning men’s volleyball team.

“I think that this is a great opportunity to help the team now that I can’t play for them anymore,” said Zylstra, who is returning to TRU to finish his business degree. “We (Zylstra and head coach Pat Hennelly) kind of both talked to each other about it and came up with the idea. I just wanted to continue to help the team as long as I could. It will be tough as some players may look at you and think of you as a player still

and not listen to you. I would like to coach in the future but that is a long ways away.”

“It’s a tough transition for the guys to move from player to coach,” Hennelly said. “I will have Tim and Tony run a lot of the drills so they can monitor the player’s progress. I’ll also have them working with some of the younger players along with getting into the drills themselves.”

Both Zylstra and Flannigan are hoping for professional coaching careers in Europe or the Pacific Rim.

“I’ll also be able to use these guys for scouting and recruiting,” Hennelly adds. “Tony was doing that in May in Edmonton. Tim has done a lot of that in the past with his club coaching in the Kamloops Volleyball system.”

Stockstad is also returning to finish her degree in tourism. “Her transfer from Douglas College late in her career has put the drive for more in her heart,” stated WolfPack Women’s volleyball coach Carrie Barrett. “She has directed her passion for the sport and is dedicating her time

back into our program. I think it’s admirable.”

While the other assistant’s will be completing their degrees, Brian Smith is coming back to the program from the “outside world” after earning his degree in Bachelor of Business Administration in June. “I can’t wait to give back to the program,” he says proudly. “I don’t think I could just sit back and watch the games without being involved.” And involved he was. With the serious injury to men’s head coach Nevin Gleddie’s daughter in late March, Smith single-handedly ran the ‘Pack’s Identification Camp.

“He is a perfect choice to be an assistant,” explained Gleddie. “The players respect him and he truly is a student of the game.”

The four ex-players’ commitment to the program hasn’t gone unnoticed by TRU Athletic Director Ken Olynyk. “They are perfect examples of what we are trying to achieve here at TRU. Not only are they first class athletes who get a top notch education, but they are also turning out to be first class community citizens as well.”