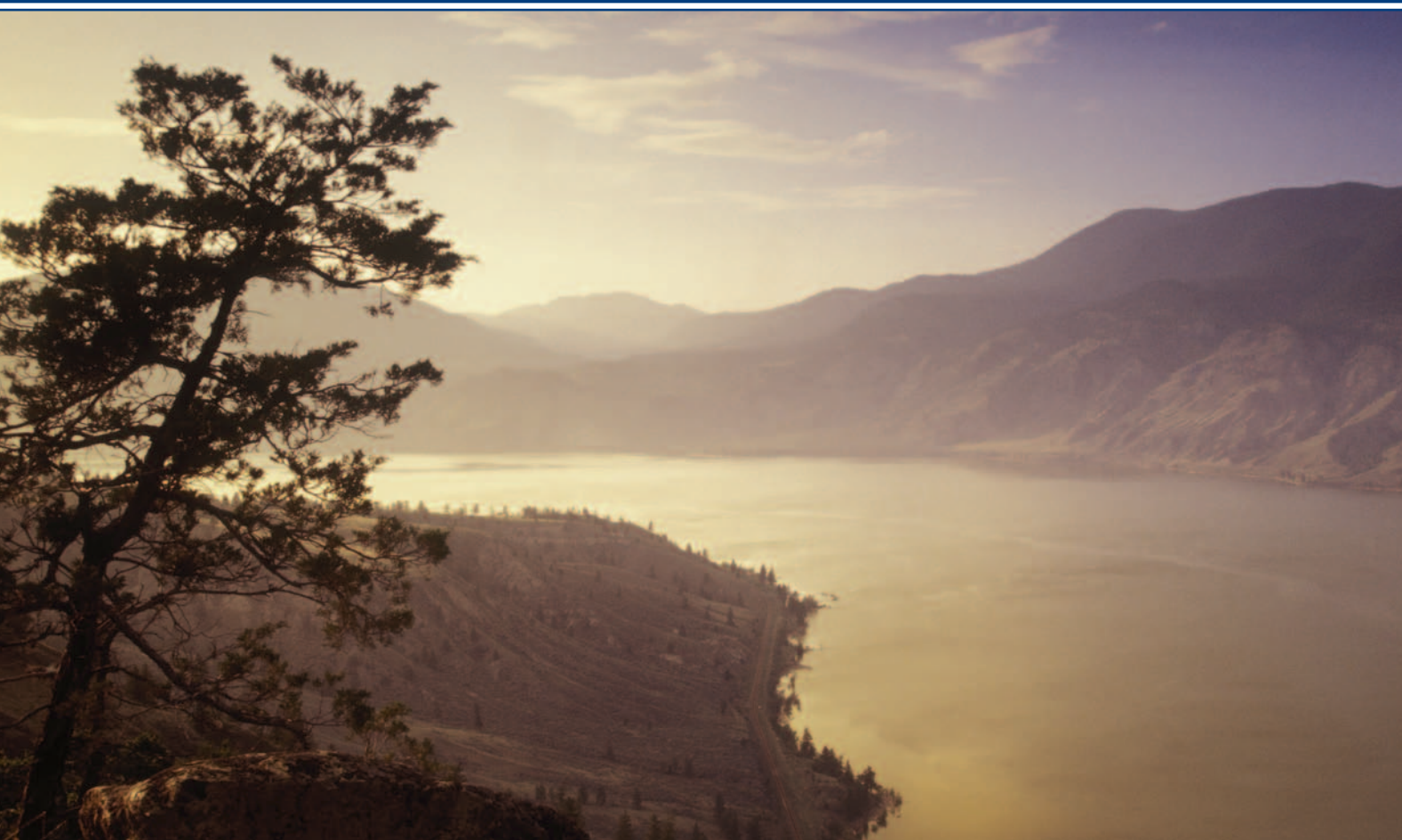


*Welcome to*

THOMPSON RIVERS  UNIVERSITY  
KAMLOOPS BC



*Commemorative Magazine*

March 31, 2005



## THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

### KAMLOOPS BC

Welcome to Thompson Rivers University (TRU), B.C.'s new university in Kamloops, created with the granting of full university status to the former University College of the Cariboo (UCC).

Originally created in 1970 as a community college, and granted university-college status in 1989, the new Thompson Rivers University is founded on 35 years of excellence in post-secondary education and training. In addition, TRU will include a greatly expanded capacity for distance education, as it has also assumed

full responsibility for the distance courses and programs of the British Columbia Open University.

TRU is a different kind of university. It is a primarily undergraduate, teaching-focused institution with the distinct advantage of offering students a complete range of programs, from undergraduate and graduate degrees to one- and two-year programs, all on one campus.

TRU offers 50 different undergraduate degree options, and will soon be introducing Master's degrees in business and other disciplines. As well, the university continues to offer more than 50 different career diploma and job-entry certificate programs, including trade-entry and apprenticeship training and college preparation and upgrading courses for adults.

What makes TRU truly distinct as a university is the mandate to provide degree access to graduates of two-year programs through "laddering" into university degrees. B.C.'s newest provincial university is now the primary "transfer in" university for college graduates looking to complete an undergraduate degree. Diploma graduates from all other colleges in Canada may be able to get up to two full years of credit and direct entry into third year of one or more TRU degree programs.

As a primarily undergraduate university the focus is still on teaching. TRU's highly qualified

faculty have always been approachable and accessible, and put the interests of students first. Students can actually get to know their faculty and talk to them any time help is needed.

New students will also be amazed by the campus where it all takes place. When visiting for the first time, most students and parents can't believe the beautiful outdoor setting of the TRU campus in Kamloops. It's a safe and spectacular haven of modern facilities on 75 acres, surrounded by trees, but right in the middle of the fastest-growing part of Kamloops, two blocks away from all the shops and services a student needs.

Facilities for students beyond the classroom include the Campus Activity Centre where students gather for activities and entertainment, the Canada Games Aquatic Centre, Gymnasium, Hillside Stadium, and the new International Building.

The main campus of TRU is in Kamloops, a great small city of 80,000 people with the best of both summer and winter, and plenty of exciting things to do.

We hope you enjoy this commemorative magazine marking the institution's progress through the years and leading up to April 1, 2005, when Thompson Rivers University officially becomes the newest university in British Columbia.

## *Many Thanks*

Much of the initial groundwork in becoming Thompson Rivers University may be attributed to the tremendous efforts of the Friends of UCC University Society, which spearheaded a community campaign in 2003 to recognize this institution as a university.

The volunteer group, lead by Al McNair, Bob Ryan and Anthony Muzzillo, was largely responsible for increasing awareness in this region and around B.C. about the benefits of becoming a full-fledged university.

The provincial government eventually heard the "friends" collective voice, which included thousands of people from this area, and in March 2004 Premier Gordon Campbell announced that UCC would be B.C.'s newest university.

Many thanks go out to all members of the society for their efforts in building community support around the university initiative.



*Thompson Rivers University Campus, Kamloops*

## President's Message



The traditions and achievements of a university help shape its place in the world of higher learning and determine how it will progress and prosper.

For Thompson Rivers University, innovation, flexibility and openness are cornerstones of the evolution from Cariboo College established 35 years ago, to the unique and comprehensive university that exists today.

By embracing change and by responding to the needs of students in new and different ways, this post-secondary institution has made the strides required to serve students in the region, throughout the province and nation and around the world.

One of the most significant changes in our institution's history will occur as The University College of the Cariboo becomes Thompson Rivers University (TRU).

To mark this proud event we welcome students, faculty and staff, as well as the community, invited dignitaries and guests, to celebrate the birth of Thompson Rivers University, which takes place March 31, 2005. This day will signify the coming together of The University College of the Cariboo and the BC Open University and Open College, to become TRU, a new university built on qualities such as comprehensiveness, integrated programming, a teaching-focused environment, distance and open learning and research and scholarship.

On March 31, we also celebrate the grand opening of the International Building, an \$11-million, self-financed project that is evidence of Thompson Rivers University's commitment toward international prominence at home and throughout the world.

We encourage everyone to attend the grand opening and take a closer look at this magnificent new building.

The opportunities that exist for us as a new university are many. Our provincial legislation mandates TRU to offer a broad range of programs from adult basic education to Master's degrees, thereby serving the full range of learning needs in the region. This new legislation also commits TRU to being British Columbia's post-secondary education open learning institution while maintaining an educational credit bank for students.

One of the most exciting aspects of our change to TRU will be letting the world know what is happening on our campus and in our community as it becomes a "university town." We are proud of the partnerships that already exist between this institution and numerous local and regional groups, from business and industry to government and non-profit agencies.

Looking forward, I know that the future is bright for Thompson Rivers University as it takes its place amongst the fine universities in our province and nation.

On behalf of the Board of Governors and the Office of the President, I welcome everyone to the Inaugural Convocation of TRU.

Regards,

Roger Barnsley, President  
Thompson Rivers University



## Alumni Association Chairperson's Message

It is my great pleasure to be part of the official opening of the Thompson Rivers University. The Alumni Association values the 35 year history of this institution and our growth from a small community college to university college and now to a thriving full-fledged

university with a beautiful campus overlooking the Thompson River valley.

Our Alumni Association board and staff are very excited about the transition from UCC to TRU. Established in 1990, the Alumni Association has grown with the institution, representing over 24,000 graduates in career, technical and academic fields who live and work throughout BC and around the world. In this commemorative magazine we celebrate 35 years of our graduates. We are proud of our alumni and what they have accomplished in their time here and we know you will enjoy reading about them in this edition.

I am proud to be a graduate of this institution and I have made this area my home. I came from Terrace in 1973 to attend Cariboo College in the Communications Media Certificate program. I remember my decision to attend was based on the quality of life I wanted, both on campus and

in the community. To this day, even with the growth at the institution, I believe TRU provides a safe campus at a lower cost than other universities. Students get smaller class sizes and have a great deal of support and encouragement from faculty and staff. This has always been a learner-focused institution that places students as the highest priority. I know TRU will continue to provide an outstanding and distinctive education for students and with the openness of TRU there will many opportunities for people of all ages to continue to pursue their educational desires.

The TRU Alumni Association believes that post-secondary education is a vital part of a thriving community. We believe in serving our graduates by providing a number of programs and services that foster loyalty to TRU and demonstrate a strong sense of pride in TRU.

We hope you will stay connected to your educational roots and join us during the TRU inaugural convocation and for related events from March 31 to April 2 on campus. This is an exciting time for our institution and the Alumni Association hopes you will be a part of it.

Sincerely,

Denise Harper, CMC '74  
Chair, TRU Alumni Association

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## Message from the Chair, Board of Governors



March 31 marks a proud moment for the Board of Governors of this institution as it becomes Thompson Rivers University.

When the board was appointed in February 2002, one of our main goals was to increase public awareness and recognition of UCC as a comprehensive, teaching-focused, undergraduate university with programs at the degree, diploma and certificate level. Through the efforts of UCC administration, staff and faculty, the community and the board, we have accomplished and surpassed this goal.

The excitement of being part of the Inaugural Convocation and welcoming our new Chancellor Nancy Greene Raine sets the tone for a bright future for TRU that includes many new opportunities as a full-fledged university.

TRU, like UCC, will continue to offer laddering and transfer options from the certificate and diploma program level into bachelor degrees, an element of the university that will be further enhanced through the acquisition of BC Open University programs and courses. The new Open Learning division of TRU provides students from across the province and anywhere in the world the opportunity to study in a flexible, innovative manner.

With the development of new degrees underway at the undergraduate and master's levels, TRU will become an institution that allows students in almost any circumstances to achieve their post-secondary goals.

As chair of the Board of Governors, I look forward to these and many other advancements that Thompson Rivers University will make in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Ron Olynyk  
Board Chair, TRU Board of Governors



### Thompson Rivers University Board of Governors 2005

From left: Tom Fair; Frank Quinn; Mona Murray; Ron Olynyk, Board Chair; Roger Barnsley, TRU President; Kari Gertzen; Zena Seldon, Education Council Chair; Margaret Cleaveley; Jon Chan, former Student Rep; Horst Holstein, Support Staff Rep; and Todd Stone, Board Vice Chair. Missing from photo Jennifer Moore, Student Rep.

## Canada's Female Athlete of the Century to be first Chancellor of TRU



One of our country's most celebrated and respected female athletes and entrepreneurs will become the first Chancellor of Canada's newest university, Thompson Rivers University (TRU).

Nancy Greene Raine, named in 1999 as Canada's Female Athlete of the 20th Century and as one of the recipients of the first honorary degrees bestowed by The University College of the Cariboo (UCC) has agreed to become Chancellor of the new university that is being created from the 35-year old former university-college. The Chancellor, as honorary head of the university, will represent and bestow prestige on the institution.

The selection of Dr. Nancy Greene Raine as the first Chancellor of TRU was made by the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of a Board committee, which included student, faculty and community representation. She will be formally installed as Chancellor on Thursday, March 31 as part of the ceremonies marking the Inaugural Convocation of Thompson Rivers University.

Nancy Greene Raine grew up in Rossland, BC and by the age of 16 was a member of the Canadian National ski team competing at the 1960 Olympics in Squaw Valley. It was the first of three Olympic Games for the Canadian star, who would become Canada's top skier in the late 60s, winning two overall World Cup titles and gold and silver medals at the 1968 Olympics.

Dr. Nancy Greene Raine's impressive list of accomplishments, in both athletics and business, has earned her many forms of recognition including: Officer of the Order of Canada; member of the Order of British Columbia; Whistler Citizen of the Year; BC Ambassador of Tourism; and selection to the National and BC Sports Halls of Fame.

Nancy and husband Al Raine made tourism their fulltime business in the 1970s, establishing themselves in Whistler, BC, bringing credibility and world-wide recognition to the resort that will be a centre-piece of the 2010 Olympic Games.

In 1994, Nancy and Al brought their success and vision to the Sun Peaks Resort near Kamloops, another international success story in the making, where they operate Nancy Greene's Cahilty Lodge and where Nancy is Director of Skiing for the resort and she is still one of the foremost ambassadors for skiing in Canada today.

# TRU roots stem from cohesive college setting

Simon and Garfunkel won a Grammy for Best Song. Patton was voted Best Picture at the Academy Awards. Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau invoked the War Measures Act after the FLQ kidnapped James Cross. U.S. National Guardsmen killed four Kent State University students during a Vietnam War protest. Canada dropped its voting age to 18.

And in Kamloops, Cariboo College opened its doors.

What was the year?

Roland Cobb recalls it — 1970 — the same year he joined the college faculty.

“I’ve been with UCC from the very beginning in 1970, when it was in the old Syd Smith building at 465 Victoria St.,” Cobb says.

The “campus” was in the brick residential school at the Kamloops Indian Band.

“It happened very fast. The portable went up in July and there were two classroom buildings at the Kamloops Indian Band. We were there by August.”

Cobb joined Cariboo College in his mid 30s as a physics instructor.

“The faculty was very young. Many were just out of university,” he says. “I’d been teaching at the University of Victoria, and I was impressed by how small the college was. It struck me as more of a high school in culture than a university.”

When it began, Cariboo College offered introductory programs, 16 academic transfer programs, six technical BCIT transfer programs and six career programs. Regardless of the fact that the new college was not even located in the Cariboo region, the institution received its name.

As one story goes, prior to 1970, a committee of school district members from Williams Lake, Barriere, South Cariboo, Lillooet, Birch Island and Kamloops would frequently meet in Kamloops for the task of developing the regional college. But one meeting was held in 100 Mile House. The Kamloops contingent was absent, and that was the meeting that sealed the name. By the end of March 1970, Cariboo Regional College had changed its letterhead simply to Cariboo College.

Cobb retired about five years ago. Reflecting on his years here, he says the energy and drive of the 1970s began to wane in the 1980s and picked up in the 1990s.

“Other faculty and I were starting to get tired. The student body had tightened the gap to become more like other institutions, with a more mature, more serious and a more high-

pressure culture. Hopefully that gap never fully closes,” he says.

“The 1990s were very refreshing. We became a four-year institution.”

Sandy Abraham also joined Cariboo College in 1970, attending Anthropology courses in the college’s university transfer program.

“It was fun and the quality was excellent. It was a small regional college but the courses were great,” Abraham says.

“We got to experience so much. I remember when I transferred to Waterloo University and I had to talk with the Dean about my marks and review the Cariboo College course descriptions. He looked at the work and said, ‘You did all this in your second year? Students here don’t get to do this work until their graduate year.’”

Abraham returned to the Kamloops campus in 1980, and convinced the college President and Vice-President of the day to let her and colleague Diane Kerr open a management centre to act as a cost-recovery centre at the college.



&

now



1970

*Cariboo College opens at the Kamloops Indian Residential School with about 30 faculty serving 367 full-time and 200 part-time students, adopting the motto, “Quansem Ilep,” meaning “to strive ahead” in Chinook. Jack Harrison appointed Principal of Cariboo College.*

1971

*Cariboo College moves to present McGill Rd. site. Student Society President Doug Hopp and others draft a constitution. Buildings open on campus include: A, B, and C Blocks, Cafeteria, facilities and faculty annex. Province gives continuing education mandate to Cariboo College.*

through the years

The two women began the Cariboo Management Centre, which still operates today — a revenue generator that consults with business and industrial organizations around the world.

“I don’t think I could have gone into a place like UBC with such an entrepreneurial proposal,” Abraham says. “We were contractors to UCC the whole time. We needed to be able to change strategies quickly and that was the beauty of the program. The bureaucracy never really got in the way like it could in other large institutions. And throughout it all, we had incredible work from the support staff.”

Abraham, who retired from consulting and now volunteers, applauds the switch to TRU relating it to her own student experience and the fact that she had to leave the community to get a degree.

## 1974

Gymnasium under construction. Student Society approves formation of fraternity called the "Ragnorokian Society."

## 1975

Cariboo employs 100 faculty to serve 1,081 full-time and 1,054 part-time students. New library building under construction. Student Society pulls out of National Union of Students and join B.C. Student's Federation.

## 1976

New library and new gymnasium open at Cariboo. Student's Advisory Council (SAC) supports college-based newspaper, 210 Express. Cariboo College Women's Centre established. Cultural Events Committee established.

## 1978

Cariboo designated as a College under Colleges and Institutes Act. New Science Building planned and under construction. Cariboo Bookstore expands. Cariboo College Student Society officially incorporated as a society.

## 1979

Charles Brewster becomes president of Cariboo College. Cariboo study tour to view solar eclipse at Yakima, Washington observatory. Cariboo establishes Women's Access Centre. Cariboo hosts B.C. Winter Games Events. Gym renovations and field construction start.

## 1980

130 part-time and 184 full-time employees serve 1,772 full-time and 1,156 part-time students. New Science Building opens. First Nations students establish "Native Indian Students Group." Cariboo Student Society joins the National Union of Students. Cariboo establishes B.C.'s only Respiratory Technician program. Bookstore expands.

through the years

# Pioneering spirit alive through 1970s and 80s

The words "college", "house", and "party," when used in the same sentence, likely bring to mind some rather distinct images.

With stereo speakers blasting and co-eds crowd the inside of a carpet-stained house, the only empty spaces are occupied by kegs of beer and bags of potato chips...or at least, something along those lines.

Moe Granger and Rod Michell fondly remember house parties from their own college days, but these were different kinds of parties. They took place when Michell and Granger were faculty members at Cariboo College.



Moe Granger  
Retired science faculty member

"I do remember a couple times when people had house parties and virtually everyone, all the faculty at the college, could come and fit in the house,"

says Granger, a retired science faculty member.

"If you held a party for college colleagues, your living room and dining room area could pretty much accommodate everyone. And you more or less

expected everybody to show up," says Michell, who teaches English.

The pair are referring to Cariboo College's very first year, in 1970. About 30 faculty were employed by the college, which didn't even have a campus yet. Classes were taught at the Kamloops Indian Residential School. It seems the close relationship among the staff was inevitable.

"We very much had a sense that we were part of an important and exciting development, so we were naturally a fairly close group," says Michell.

"Plus we were young. Plus it was the '70s."

"Most of us had done a bit of teaching in various capacities before we came here, but none of us had a lot of experience that way," says Granger. "We were pretty well as green as the college was in many respects."

Granger had taught for a short time at the University of Calgary, but the British Columbia

native was eager to make his way back home. He couldn't pass up what he calls "a once in a lifetime opportunity" to work at the new community college opening in Kamloops, regardless of whether there was a campus.

"Certainly without having a home, something more permanent apart from our temporary quarters, there was an air of hesitation," says Granger. "But stronger than that was the optimism we saw for the future."

While many recognized the importance of the new community college – still a relatively new concept at the time – others were skeptical.

"There was that typical reaction that some people have to an academic component, that it's all sort of marginal and frivolous, and a bit airy-fairy, and not really dealing with the nitty gritty of life and work," says Michell.

But those at Cariboo College knew better, and they forged ahead.

"Because it was a new institution, I think the students and faculty collaboratively felt that they were pioneers, so there was a common ground between them," says Michell.

"It's partly a result of being in the '70s, but we moved away from some of the traditional instructor/student relationships, which had been very formal," says Michell. "You didn't call students by their first names prior to the late '60s and early '70s."

"One of the things we wanted to maintain at the college was smaller classes, because we felt we could have better contact with the students that way, and that has stayed pretty true over the years," says Granger.

While Granger remembers the excitement in 1980 of moving from one of the portable facilities on campus into the brand new science building, Michell favours 1976, the year the new library and gymnasium opened.

Neither one could have predicted back then how Cariboo College would progress to The University College of the Cariboo, and now Thompson Rivers University.

"When one looks back at it, it's hard to believe what's transpired in the last 35 years," says Granger, who retired in 2002. "I don't think any of us thought at the time it would develop the way it has. I think it's great."

This Commemorative magazine has been produced by Marketing & Communications, Creative Services at Thompson Rivers University.

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# Change to a university college helps set foundation for becoming TRU

To understand UCC's transition to Thompson Rivers University is to understand how and why the college became a university-college in 1989.

From the early '70s to late '80s, Cariboo College offered developmental, vocational and career training plus first and second year academic courses that were transferable to the province's universities. The only option for a Kamloops-based student wanting to complete a degree in B.C. in those days was to transfer to the University of Victoria, University of B.C. or Simon Fraser University.

Trouble was, few actually made the trip to the west coast.

"Only 15 per cent of the students we trained actually made the transfer to finish their degrees. The result was a pent-up demand for degree completion in Kamloops," says former



*Jim Wright  
former UCC President*

UCC President Jim Wright, who is now the Executive Director of the Private Career Training Institutions Agency, a Vancouver-based agency of the B.C. Ministry of Advanced Education.

Wright joined the Cariboo faculty in 1973 as a history and political science instructor. He became President of UCC in 1986, leaving 11 years later in 1997. The pressure for access to degree programs increased in Kamloops and across the province in the late 1980s as B.C.'s universities struggled with capacity problems for students seeking admission. In response to the problem, B.C.'s Advanced Education Minister of the day, Stan Hagen, struck a series of regional Access-for-All committees, and challenged them to come up with recommendations to improve access to post-secondary education.

The geographic boundary for the local Access Committee was not defined by the Cariboo College region. Instead, it included both the Cariboo and Okanagan College regions.

"With the Okanagan and Cariboo colleges in the same committee, the usual competition between the two areas began to surface," Wright recalls.

A series of community meetings were held in both college regions and the Committee heard calls for a new provincial university in both

Kamloops and Kelowna. In the end the committee decided it was more logical to build on the already-established university transfer programs—the Okanagan and Cariboo College campuses were already in place, as was the administration structure and faculty. Partnership opportunities for joint degrees also existed with UBC, UVic and SFU. The university-college program went ahead in 1989.

"That was a very important step in the evolution of Cariboo College becoming a university," Wright says. "Clearly, the community and the institution had wanted the college to achieve full university status. And both Kamloops and Kelowna believed its own college should be the site for the next new provincial university."

As it turned out, Hagen was replaced with a new Advanced Education Minister, who happened to be from Prince George. B.C.'s fourth university, the University of Northern B.C., was established in Prince George.

"The UNBC decision fueled the community drive in Kamloops and Kelowna to want their own full-fledged universities. Leaders in Kamloops began to press for university status," Wright says.

Students' participation rates in degree programs have grown from 20 per cent in the 1980s to the point where the vast majority of local high school graduates now choose to attend TRU. Josh Keller, UCC's Public Relations Director, says the institution is now seeing its own graduates returning to the campus as faculty or young professionals.



*Josh Keller  
Director of Public Relations*

"That is what many people involved in the process for TRU pointed to and said that is the future," Keller says.

"The turning point in the drive for university status was the groundswell of community support. People like Al McNair, Anthony Muzzillo and Bob Ryan were instrumental," says Keller.

"The thousands of people they brought in were a large, impressive, collective voice. People in this community were strong about articulating our vision, and the institution did a very good job of presenting the facts and the benefits to be had."

Looking back on his years in Kamloops, Wright says he is proud of the legacy that UCC leaves for TRU. UCC was the first university-college in B.C. to apply for and gain admission to the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada. That achievement means UCC is accepted by its academic peers—other institutions across the country.

"It gives weight to the UCC transcripts that students carry and it gives credibility to the institution itself," Wright says. "What was always very important to me was maintaining our commitment to the career and vocational programs, along with the degree programs. UCC is, I believe, the most effectively melded university-college in Canada, and I trust it will remain so as TRU."



**Ross Spina  
University Transfer '71**

After receiving his Professional Teacher's Certificate, Ross began teaching at John Peterson Junior High in Kamloops. Since then, his career in education has continually advanced and he is now the Director of Secondary Education for School District #73.

Ross has participated in the development of joint partnerships with TRU, most recently working on the Career Technical Centre which allows secondary students to complete Grade 11 and 12 core courses along with up to one year of post-secondary instruction at TRU.

He is the President of the Board of the Phoenix Centre, serves as a director for the McQueen Lake Society, and is a longtime volunteer and member of the Colombo Lodge. Ross's key role in the development of School District-TRU partnerships led to an invitation to visit China last fall as a guest of the Chinese government to share ideas and strategies with middle school districts and universities. Ross's accomplishments were recognized in 1998 with the Distinguished Alumni Award for Professional Achievement.

# TRU seeks to extend research opportunities to all

Thompson Rivers University will continue UCC's progress from conventional education boundaries, encouraging its students to embrace research projects as part of their undergraduate experience.

Traditionally in the domain of graduate studies, research work at UCC has been extended students in their undergraduate degrees.

"As we expand our research and scholarly activities at TRU, we'll be looking specifically for ways in which our undergraduate students will benefit," says Mark Evered, UCC Provost and Vice-President, Academic.

"At universities with postgraduate programs, most of the research and other forms of

creative work is done by the graduate students. We will be developing some new graduate programs, but I believe there are excellent opportunities to involve undergraduate students in research and scholarship too."



*Tom Dickinson*  
Associate Vice-President Research

Some \$200,000 a year fuels research at UCC. About 20 students a year can receive grants up to \$5,000 under the Comprehensive University Enhancement Fund and, through the Research Learning Course, students can design their own course to gain an in-depth look at issues related to their disciplines.

Evered says he would also like to see research at TRU better serve the region.

"In terms of our education, training programs, scholarship and research, we should not forget the opportunities and responsibilities associated with where we are located and the region we are expected to serve," he says. "I do not see a regional focus as incompatible with excellence. We can do first-rate research and scholarly work of high international standard dealing with regional issues."

Tom Dickinson, Associate Vice-President, Research, says the change to university status will help illustrate the institution's unique research structure.

"The change in status may simply serve to bring more attention to what we're already doing. It will put us on a grid that will be more recognizable across Canada," Dickinson says.

Evered says he would like to see all departments of the campus benefit from the enrichment of research.

"We need to think beyond narrow definitions of research and scholarly work and consider the many creative ways that we can contribute to the advancement of our various disciplines and the ways that they are taught," he says.

Dickinson says research is an important opportunity for students and instructors to share moments of discovery.

"Research has an incredibly valuable role. We have all had mentors, and we find out that even they don't have all the answers. Once that knowledge and excitement of doing research has bitten you, then you can't get rid of it."

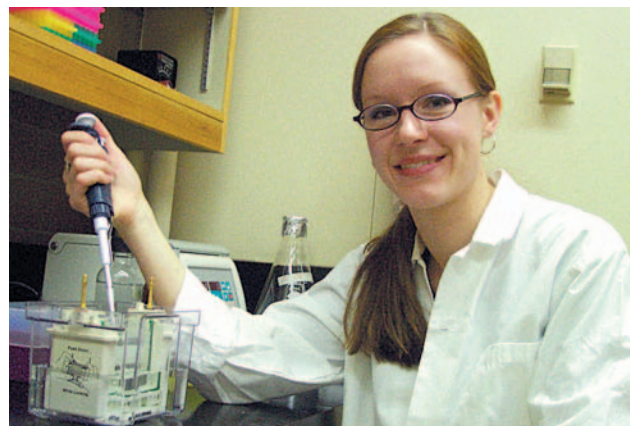
TRU is also anticipating hosting two more Canada Research Chairs under the federal government research chair program, in addition to its two current Research Chairs.

## **Reta Derkson** Human Service Worker Cert. '77

Reta was the class president of the Social Service Aide program. She continued her education with diplomas in Life Skills Coaching, Addictions Counselling, and Family Therapy, as well as earning a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Alberta in '89. She worked her way back to BC and is employed by the North Fraser Health Authority as their Vocational Counsellor; assisting people with chronic and persistent mental illness find employment.

## **Annette Glover** Medical Lab Technology '79

Annette obtained her CSMLS certification in 1980 and has been employed at Royal Inland Hospital since that time. She is active in the community, particularly with public education and science. Annette is currently serving her third term as a Trustee for School District #73, having been elected to three year terms in 1994, 1997 and 2003. Annette says that the highlight of her community involvement has been as a founding director and a president of the Big Little Science Centre Society in Kamloops, supporting long-time science educator Gordon Gore's science centre legacy project.



*Sarah Anderson*  
Science graduate



# Institution committed to College Prep, Trades and Vocational programs

Ken Jakes, coordinator of the Retail Meat Processing program, has experienced a good bit of UCC's evolution and sees a bright future for the institution as it becomes Thompson Rivers University.

Jakes has been employed here for many years and part of the reason for his anticipation is the knowledge that TRU will remain as comprehensive as UCC, offering post-secondary programs at the certificate, diploma and degree level.

"I'm gung-ho for that," says Jakes, faculty member of the School of Tourism. "I'm a 42-year veteran of the meat industry and I'm still learning. The change to a university is exciting because the mandate is to remain comprehensive."

Full university status brings opportunities for everybody, including those in our program. I fully expect our department will grow from the transition."

A case in point is the work the institution has been doing to secure a Research Chair for TRU, whose work relates to the cattle industry. That could bring with it technological machinery for microbiological analysis related to sciences and the food industry.

"Science is advancing faster than the food industry can keep up. As a university we can help the industry advance with it, and Thompson Rivers University will only help close that gap," Jakes says.

He also hopes for opportunities for more funding, something that would become of great assistance to a program that serves a market far bigger than most people understand.

"The meat industry is huge. Ten thousand beef animals are processed each day through two Alberta processing plants alone. One day's kill at one plant feeds eight million people somewhere in North America, and it's all traceable," he says. "For the trades program, with the full benefit of a university with a food science program, it's a tremendous opportunity if people take the initiative. TRU will be the only university of its kind in Canada."

Fred Cunningham, Chair of TRU's College Preparation Department, also sees the doors that could open in a full-fledged, comprehensive university. He believes work the College Prep department does now in preparing students to move into diploma and degree programs will become even more flexible through new online and distance education options.



Joinery student Ian Pavluk

"We get a whole range of students coming our way – high school students, mature students, international students – many of whom return to tell us what a difference in their lives and academic successes College Prep has made," says Cunningham.

"If you think about any vocation or profession, we have probably had somebody go into that at some point. Students tend to do better in the first year of their chosen program because of the training they receive from us."

While further opportunities in vocational, trades and College Prep training are sure to abound as UCC becomes Thompson Rivers University, one element that should remain is the close knit campus.

Kevin Scollon, co-ordinator of TRU's Horticulture program and a 14-year faculty member, believes it's an important aspect of TRU worth preserving.

Scollon is a graduate of the horticulture program (1985) and says he hopes the family-like nature of his classes remains intact with the transition.

"I would hate to have the student become a number" Scollon says.

"We're very homey. The students sign up as a group. We're a family here – sometimes dysfunctional – but a family nevertheless."

With an official class size of 20, the Horticulture program sees an annual wait list for the one-year certificate program, while a two-year Horticulture and Management diploma is available through the School of Business.

Scollon says he would like to see more options for a second-year program emerge through TRU.

"We want our students to do well," says Scollon. "A student now at the Muttart Conservatory in Edmonton called to say that we did a nice job of training. The City of Kamloops hired four new gardeners, all former UCC Horticulture students. I love seeing people go forward."



Kevin Scollon  
Co-ordinator, Horticulture program

## 1981

New Visual Arts building opened. Study tours to Greece and Turkey, China and Mt. St. Helens. UBC and Cariboo College co-sponsor the Hat Creek Symposium. Labour dispute causes staff walkout at Cariboo College

## 1982

Cariboo introduces two-year Associate Diplomas in Arts and Sciences. B.C. Festival of the Arts events hosted by Cariboo College. Animal Health Technology Small Animal Clinic opens. Cariboo Student Society creates four \$400 bursaries. Campus newspaper The Beacon established.

## 1983

Cariboo Management Centre opens at former Allan Matthews School. First grads from CSOM, CAD, Respiratory Technology and Animal Health Technology. Cariboo spends more than \$100,000 to make campus more wheelchair accessible. Construction begins on Meatcutting Facility. Cariboo receives special funding to establish support services for disabled students.

## 1984

Meatcutting facility opens. Jim Bann and Helen Keir made honorary Cariboo College Board members. Student newspaper El No Se established. Williams Lake Campus opened.

## 1985

183 full-time and 167 part-time employees serve 1,663 full-time and 1,648 part-time students. CAST program begins. Theatre courses and Digital Art and Design offered for the first time. Cariboo College Dining Room opens. Williams Lake campus moves to 55,000 square-foot Hodgson Road facility.

through the years

# Williams Lake campus bridges distance for area students

While parents joke about reaching middle-aged independence when they finally ship their children away to college, UCC's Williams Lake campus endeavours to keep students from the region at home longer.

Williams Lake staff understand that a first-year student's leap from a smaller centre to a metropolis like Vancouver can be overwhelming. Grace Simpson, TRU's office co-ordinator in Williams Lake, says the culture shock can take its toll on newcomers who might favour parties and bars over libraries and classrooms, or who feel alienated by the anonymity and impersonal nature of large classes. Simpson has been working at the Williams Lake campus since 1980 and has had ample opportunity to learn about students' experiences.

"The first year in a place like UBC can be very difficult. Students can live in a dorm of 400 and have classes in lecture halls. It's very different and students from a smaller community can often struggle or fail the first year," she says. "Post-secondary education can be a major transition from high school and to ease their adjustment we try to provide students assistance where they need it."

Williams Lake has smaller class sizes, on average from 15 to 30 students — and the focus is on keeping students in the community for a couple years of their post-secondary education.



*Rob Anderson  
Dean of Williams Lake campus*

Rob Anderson, Dean, Williams Lake says the switch to Thompson Rivers University will leave the campus mandate intact and offer more opportunities to students in the Cariboo corridor.

"With the open university our students can stay in town longer. It can add years to their Williams Lake education and they can complete a degree in town," Anderson says. "The change to a university will make the students more comfortable that their courses will be transferable because of the university name and it will help with community perception. We will even see increased potential for research."

The Williams Lake campus opened about a year after Kamloops in the early '70s, offering a handful of upgrading and continuing education

courses. The next three decades saw the campus mushroom into different locations in the community as programs grew. Campus life never really existed until the Hodgson Road facility was expanded to add a student lounge, faculty offices and administration offices. Shortly after, Mother Nature intervened when the facility was affected by ground movement and the building had to be abandoned. For the past several years, programs and services have been working out of various locations around Williams Lake.

By 2006, TRU students, staff and faculty will once again enjoy the closeness of one facility. UCC recently purchased the old Anne Stevenson high school, which was closed by the school district. The project should go to tender in the Spring of 2005 and upgrades will take about a year.

All those involved are anxiously awaiting the day when once again a unified campus becomes a reality.

## Williams Lake campus tailored to regional issues

The Williams Lake campus serves an expansive geography. Reaching out from Williams Lake, it serves about 30,000 people from Bella Coola to 100 Mile House, and just south of Quesnel. The campus has an East-West span of 300 km, and a North-South stretch of about 120 km.

"In the Cariboo, all roads meet in Williams Lake," says Rob Anderson, Dean of Williams Lake. "The big geography makes for some delivery challenges. But we have some programs that address that issue."

The campus in Williams Lake has a joint

program with UNBC and First Nations Tribal Councils for weekend university mainly designed for First Nations students. It's called Cariboo-Chilcotin Weekend University. In addition, two or three First Nations communities work with TRU to receive on-site programs.

Williams Lake office co-ordinator Grace Simpson says the local campus adjusts to the changing needs of the region. During the 1980s the Indo-Canadian population grew, and UCC recognized the demand and importance for

English as a Second Language programs.

"TRU also offers a work skills program that assists challenged students who want to attain life skills, which may lead to independent living. Many other one-year certificate programs will open doors to employment opportunities," says Simpson.

"We have a lot of community support," she adds. "As we become a university our focus changes somewhat, but we will continue to meet needs at a local level. That makes us a unique university."

# Canada West next step for varsity athletics

When it comes to growing a varsity athletics program at Thompson Rivers University, Athletic Director Ken Olynyk believes a conservative approach will mark the road to success.

It's not that he's curbing the drive of the TRU teams, which have proven successful in Canadian College Athletic Association (CCAA) competition for the past three decades. It's more a philosophy of starting small and building the program from a strong footing as it enters the country's highest level of post-secondary competition – Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) – in September 2005.

Anything but small himself, the six-foot-eight Olynyk says entering CIS with two varsity sports, men's and women's basketball and volleyball, provides TRU a better opportunity to succeed in a limited number of sports.

"Too often people try to be successful at too many things. With four teams in two sports, we have a better chance to do well," he says.

Olynyk's perspective is built on 30 years of coaching experience at the post-secondary and national levels including head coach of the men's varsity basketball program at the University of Toronto for 15 years and serving as head coach for the national men's team program.

He was drawn to UCC in 2003 by the challenges that lay ahead for a varsity program that was ready to move up the ladder of competition, but he also recognized that a strong community spirit, especially for sport, existed in Kamloops.

While good coaching and committed athletes are key for success, Olynyk places a great deal of worth on the "fans in the stands" mentality and what that can bring an athletics agenda.

"What I think could really be big is the community support for our university and our teams. Our varsity teams have the opportunity to become Kamloops community teams, similar to the recognition the Blazers receive."

Both the men's and women's volleyball and basketball teams have helped build a level of competitive excitement by proving worthy opponents at the provincial and national level. The women's basketball team captured the provincial title in 2000 and the bronze in 2001, while the men's team earned a bronze medal at both the 1998 nationals and during the hosting

of the 2004 national championships. The women's volleyball team won gold at this year's provincials; the bronze medal at the provincials in 2004, while the men earned a silver medal in B.C. play and a spot at the nationals in both 2004 and 2005.

These teams will now compete in Canada West regular season competition against schools such as UBC, SFU and UVic.

From a coaching perspective – the biggest challenge will be to elevate current and new varsity athletes to a CIS level of play.

"We need to build our schedule around strategies to play at a certain level – something that will allow us to compete within two years with the top 15 teams in the country," said Tom Elwood, women's varsity basketball coach.

Elwood, who was an assistant coach for the men's basketball teams at UBC, University of Lethbridge, and Ottawa before coming to TRU, says his own learning curve will include watching game tapes from the CIS.

"There is a level of expectation with this. I think if we don't get hung up on what's on the score board, we will become competitive," Elwood says.

TRU also has varsity soccer (men's and women's), baseball (men's) and badminton (mixed) teams, which will continue to compete at the BC College Athletic Association level, part of the Canadian Colleges Athletics Association.

## Carolynn Boomer (Zutz) Recreation Management Diploma '85

Carolynn played varsity volleyball for Cariboo College for two years, where the team qualified for Nationals in 1984 (5th) and were the only volleyball team to make Nationals from the institution. Carolynn later came back to coach the women's team



from 1993 - 1997. She still enjoys playing a variety of sports and will be competing in the World Master Games in Edmonton in July 2005. Currently, Carolynn is the General Manager of PacificSport Interior BC located in Kamloops which provides a dynamic environment for sport performance for high performance athletes and coaches. Check out their website at

[www.pacificsport.com](http://www.pacificsport.com).

Carolynn received a Distinguished Alumni Award for Athletic Achievement in 1995.



Ken Olynyk  
Athletic Director



# alumni UCC to TRU



1990 Inaugural Alumni Board of Directors

In 1990, a new element of support and camaraderie was introduced to The University College of the Cariboo with the official formation of the Alumni Association.

Over the past 15 years, this integral part of UCC has grown to include a membership list of more than 24,000 graduates located in BC, throughout Canada and around the world.

“Our alumni are an important part of the history of UCC and the Alumni Association is their collective voice,” says Nancy Plett, the association’s Executive Director. “Their personal success reflects the excellent quality of education they have received while attending the institution and many demonstrate their appreciation by giving back

## Online Community

The Online Community is designed to keep you connected to TRU and to provide you with networking opportunities with alumni around the world. Membership is available only to alumni and current students.

- Business Card Exchange
- Online Mentoring
- Travel & Relocation Advice
- Alumni Directories
- Permanent TRU Email Address
- Bulletin Boards
- Job Postings



to UCC by volunteering their time or by contributing financially.”

The process for getting the Alumni Association off the ground arrived at a time of sweeping changes for Cariboo College as it had just become part of the university-college system in B.C. and had undergone a name change to The University College of the Cariboo.

In August of 1990, at the 20th anniversary celebration of the institution, the inaugural Alumni Board of Directors was introduced.

The early years for the organization were exciting and challenging, remembers Karl deBruijn, Chair of the inaugural board, (university transfer 1974, who speaks fondly of his involvement).

“Getting the actual design and structure of new board off the ground was a great personal experience. I am proud of the professional organization we developed and the sense of comradery that was felt by my fellow alumni board members,” he says.

“The initial board was made up of local alumni recruited from the business community. We developed a business plan, with our mandate as ‘friend raising.’”

deBruijn’s enthusiasm and initiatives were recognized in 1995 when he received the Distinguished Alumni Award for his service to the university.

“I was surprised and honoured that the institution recognized my work on the board.”

Today the Alumni Association has 17 board members and the growth and success of the



2004 – 2005 Alumni Board of Directors

association is directly attributed to support from that board as well as alumni membership and the university.

Board members are all graduates of UCC and contribute many volunteer hours to implement events, programs and services offered to grads and to support the institution as a whole.

“The Alumni Association is fortunate to have such a deep pool of talent from which to draw on for board members. Each person who serves on the board brings an energy and willingness to go that extra mile in promoting and forwarding the interests of TRU,” says Denise Harper, Board Chair, (CMC 1974).

“I am so pleased that students of all ages living in the south central Interior of the province can finally have the opportunity to achieve all their education goals at one of the finest institutions in the country. I am incredibly proud of TRU and of being able to call it my alma mater.”

The association serves the institution primarily by building relationships with its graduates. Its role is to assist grads in maintaining a network with fellow alumni, faculty and the university.

Through sponsorship of special events, programs, a newsletter and website, the association communicates with alumni about current and future developments at TRU and encourages graduates to keep in touch.

“We are interested in the lives of our graduates after they leave the university. Whether you graduated from Cariboo College, UCC or TRU, we want to hear from you,” says Executive Director Nancy Plett.

The association also offers services, programs and financial assistance to students currently attending TRU.

As UCC becomes TRU and incorporates open learning, Plett says the organization looks forward to connecting to a whole new group of grads who live throughout BC and Canada and are learning online.

# alumni say



“When I attend the Alumni Association events, like Homecoming and the Pineridge Golf Tournament, it reminds me of some of the best times of my life. I love reconnecting with former classmates and professors from TRU.”

*Glen Poelzer, Teacher, BSc '91*

“I come from a rural place where there is a strong sense of community and I dearly missed that until I started my classes at UCC/TRU — there I found friendly neighbours in my classmates, instructors and the administration. I could count on people for assistance — from the staff at the bookstore and cafeteria to the friendly library staff. They all gave me my sense of community.”



*Joanne Brown, BA '00*



“Having been a recipient of a UCC/TRU Alumni Scholarship as a student, I wanted to give something back and have found that staying connected has offered me networking opportunities and a source of professional development.”

*Shannon Joly,  
Human Resources Officer - BBA '00*

“My education from UCC/TRU helped me in achieving my CMA accounting designation. After graduation I wanted to stay involved with UCC and give something back, so I attended the Sports Task Force dinners and the Gala nights, both major fundraisers for the university. I also joined the Alumni Board and I have thoroughly enjoyed being involved in the maturing of the Alumni Association and the institution.”



*Tom McNulty, Accountant, BD '77*



*House 9 – Home of Alumni Association*

## Top 10 Reasons to Stay Connected to TRU Alumni Association After You Graduate

1. Keep in touch with classmates through the TRU Online Community.
2. Share news and achievements with fellow grads in the Alumni Network Newsletter.
3. Get great discounts on products and services with the Alumni Benefits Card.
4. Get financial support for a special project through the Project Grants program.
5. Volunteer to help a student by participating in the Mentoring Program.
6. Be recognized for your accomplishments with a Distinguished Alumni Award.
7. Network for your career at Chapter Network Socials.
8. Reconnect with old friends and faculty at Program Reunions and the annual Homecoming Weekend.
9. Support your Alumni Association and get great deals through our Affinity Partnerships.
10. Continue your education with great Professional Development opportunities.

**Visit the TRU Alumni Association website for details on all program and services at [www.trualumni.ca](http://www.trualumni.ca)**

## Alumni Benefits Card: Have YOU Got It?

Get great deals on products and services from businesses across Western Canada! It's FREE and only available to TRU alumni!

- Up to 50% off at hotels
- Up to 15% off at restaurants
- Save 50% on Internet Access
- 15% off car rentals
- Save on gym memberships, swimming, hair care, car parts and more.....

## 1986

*Jim Wright becomes Cariboo College President. Cariboo Student Society sponsors eight \$500 bursaries. City of Kamloops declares week of November 16-22 “College Week” in recognition of Cariboo College’s contributions to the economic, social, cultural, recreational and educational development of Kamloops.*

## 1987

*Rick Hansen visits Cariboo College. Food Training Building renovated. Cariboo College establishes designated smoking areas.*

## 1988

*Clocktower construction begins. Construction begins on student residences. Canadian astronaut Steve McLean visits Cariboo as part of College Week '88. Hillside Stadium built.*

## 1989

*Cariboo offers five degree programs, including the newly implemented Business Studies degree and four other Bachelor’s degrees in Education, Science, Arts and Nursing. Arts and Education building under construction. Co-op Education introduced. Clocktower Building completed.*

## 1990

*259 full-time and 124 part-time employees serve 3,047 full-time and 2,205 part-time students. A sixth degree program is added (Bachelor of Social Work). Library and Science buildings expanded. UCC-based literary journal, Textual Studies in Canada, founded. Official forming of the UCC Alumni Association.*

## 1991

*First joint university degrees awarded. Arts and Education building opened. Bachelor of Natural Resource Science degree program planned. Science building and Library extensions opened. UCC’s Computer Access Centre on Victoria Street opened.*

through the years

# Distinguished Alumni Awards

The Alumni Association began recognizing distinguished alumni in 1995 as part of the 25th anniversary of the institution and since then, 34 people have been presented with the award. The Distinguished Alumni Awards program offers an exciting opportunity to honour individuals, and bring attention to the vital role that our graduates play in the social and economic lives of their communities. The awards are presented annually at the President's Reception during Homecoming Weekend. This fall, the first TRU Distinguished Alumni Awards will be given to some very deserving individuals.

The Alumni Association is seeking nominations of individuals that are deserving of this prestigious award. All graduates of a certificate, diploma or degree program or a university transfer with 30 credits are eligible for nominations. Current students are also eligible for nomination for the Outstanding Student Award and the Alumni Teaching Excellence Award recognizes current or retired TRU faculty.

Check the Alumni website for more information and nomination packages at [www.trualumni.ca](http://www.trualumni.ca).



**Mark Madryga**  
University Transfer '84

Mark graduated with Bachelor of Science in Meteorology from the University of BC in 1986. He has been a Meteorologist with Environment Canada at the Pacific Weather Centre in Vancouver since 1987 and has been the weekend Meteorologist at Global Television (BCTV News) since 1994. Mark continues to have a close allegiance with Kamloops and enjoys regular visits throughout the year. Mark lives in South Surrey and has two children, Matthew, 8 and Tessa, 5.



**Lisa Allgaier**  
Bachelor of Social Work Degree, '93

Lisa is the Director General of Aboriginal Initiatives for Corrections Canada. In her role she is responsible for correctional policy and programs for male and female Aboriginal offenders. The focus of the correctional interventions is to reduce recidivism and promote successful reintegration of Aboriginal offenders in the community. Prior to her work at Corrections Canada, Lisa had several roles with the provincial government, including Director of Aboriginal Health and Assistant Treaty Negotiator. She worked for several years directly for and in the Aboriginal community in Kamloops, Chase and Salmon Arm. She has held many volunteer positions on local, provincial and national boards, from the John Howard Society of Kamloops to the BC Association of Social Workers. Lisa was the 2003 recipient of The Grace Chronister BSW Distinguished Alumni Award for her professional accomplishments in the field of social work.



**Roland Neave**  
University Transfer '72

Roland owns and operates Wells Gray Tours in Kamloops, a business he started as a college student. The company has since become one of the largest tour operators in British Columbia and carries over 3,000 people per year to locations throughout Canada and around the globe. Roland is also a writer, editor and publisher with credits including Hiking the High Points and Exploring Wells Gray Park. Roland shares his expertise in tourism and geography with current students, and he and his family have been strong supporters of the UCC Foundation. Roland was recognized for his many accomplishments in 2001 with a Distinguished Alumni Award for Professional Achievement.

## 1995

- Dr. Kelly Uren, Professional Achievement
- John O'Fee, Public Service Award
- Karl DeBuijn, Service to the University
- Marilyn Poncelet, Service to the Community
- Carolyn Boomer, Athletic Achievement Award
- Merrilyn Pennanen, Academic Achievement Award

## 1996

- Ken Christian, Public Service Award
- Kathleen Hinter, Professional Achievement
- Jeevyn Dhaliwal, Service to the Community
- Carlyle Matthew, Arts and Culture Award

## 1998

- Doug Baleshta, Service to the University Award
- Robert Holden, Community Service Award
- Dr. Ross Boulanger, Academic Achievement Award
- Alan Hay, Athletic Achievement Award
- Ross Spina, Professional Achievement Award
- Mark Madryga, Professional Achievement Award

## 1999

- Cathy Ferguson, Community Service Award
- Michael Meeks, Professional Achievement Award
- Ralph Tedder, Athletic Achievement Award

## 2000

- Patricia Sellmer, Arts and Culture Award
- Carolyn Vossler, Service to the Community

## 2001

- Jane Rowe, Service to the Community
- Roland Neave, Professional Achievement

## 2002

- Patrick Hogan, Professional Achievement
- Charlene Yow, Service to the Community

## 2003

- Sukh Heer Matonovich, Athletic Achievement
- Bill Frymire, Professional Achievement
- Jo Rothenburger, Professional Achievement & Service to the Community
- Dr. Roland Cobb, Teaching Excellence
- Lisa Allgaier, Grace Chronister BSW Award

# 2004 Distinguished Alumni Award Winners

**Dr. Ying Kong**  
**Assoc. Professor, Economics -**  
**DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD FOR**  
**TEACHING EXCELLENCE**

Over twenty students from Dr. Kong's Economics and Statistics class submitted his nomination for Teaching Excellence Award. They indicated that Dr. Kong's teaching methods made the topics of Economics and Statistics easy to understand and learn.

Dr. Ying Kong is currently on leave from his position as an Associate Professor of Economics at UCC, a position held since 1999. Dr. Kong has a PhD in Economics, a Masters in Public Administration from Carleton University, and a Bachelor Degree in Science from Peking University in China. Prior to teaching at UCC, Dr. Kong worked as a visiting professor at both the University of Victoria and Carleton University.

Dr. Kong has worked extensively on Economic and Statistical analysis for the Ontario Property Assessment Corporation, for the Patented Medicine Price Review Board with Health Canada, and with the Division of Investment and Capital Stock for Statistics Canada. In Beijing, China, Dr Kong was the Senior Economics Analyst for the State Science and Technology Commission. He is a member of the Canadian Economic Association and the Industrial Organization Society. Dr. Kong has published in many industry-related journals.

**Kris Stewart**  
**Nursing Diploma '88**  
**DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD FOR**  
**PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT**

Kris graduated from UCC in 1988 from the Nursing Diploma Program. Kris moved to North Carolina and lived there for 8 years working as an RN in all Acute Care areas. She opened state-certified Home Health Agency and became a Occupational Health Nurse after completing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1994. Shortly after, Kris moved back to Canada and took a position in an Arctic First Nations Community as a defacto nurse practitioner for 2 years, which included being a medical officer on a Canadian Coast Guard ship in the Eastern Arctic for 3 months. In 1997, Kris moved to Kelowna and became a corporate health nurse for Telus.

In July 2002, Kris saw a need in her community and ventured out on her own. She found the investment capital necessary and incorporated a private MRI clinic in Kelowna called Image One. Kris is responsible for the administration, public relations, marketing, clinical governance, business development and nursing duties for the clinic. She has succeeded in establishing herself in a field dominated by male doctors and in distinguishing herself by combining her profession of nursing with the field of business.

**Karla Mundle-Guido**  
**Event & Convention Management**  
**Diploma '99**  
**DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD FOR**  
**SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY**

Karla is very involved in the Kamloops community through her job and volunteer work. Karla is described as a person with a caring attitude, a person who puts her heart and soul into everything she does. After graduating from the Events & Conventions Management Diploma in 1999, she worked for the Kamloops City RCMP Detachment in a variety of roles that have lead to her current position as Community Policing Coordinator. Part of her work on the North Shore is with the Kamloops Community Action team. The team looks at ways to address a number of important issues on the North Shore including public safety issues, sex trade issues and vandalism.

For many years, Karla was a Life Guard and Red Cross swimming instructor for the City of Kamloops Recreation Department. She delivered the Red Cross Child Abuse Education program to students in junior and senior high schools, as well as provided water & safety programs and information to the community.

Karla is an excellent role model for youth. She has developed recreation leadership workshops that train youth to become effective program leaders. Karla and her husband Deno, volunteer their time at drop in programs for youth on the North Shore, holding teen nights called TGIF.

Karla has raised funds for many non-profits in the community including the Annual Golf Tournament fundraiser for the Kamloops Community Crime Prevention Society, the Mountie Stomp, a fundraiser for the Bruce Denniston Bone Marrow Society, the Red Cross Child Abuse Education program, the Josh Guido and Mike Young Memorial Bursary and the Heart & Stroke Foundation.

**Hamish Plommer**  
**Bachelor of Social Work '01**  
**GRACE CHRONISTER BSW**  
**DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD**

Hamish graduated from UCC in 2001 with a Bachelor of Social Work. Hamish has also completed UCC's Community Mental Health Certificate and is working towards a Registered Horticulture Therapist certification.

After graduation, Hamish began work for THEO BC (BC Society of Training for Health and Employment Opportunities); a non-profit organization dedicated to offering employment-related programs. He was responsible for the development of the program at Gardengate, an innovative horticulture project developed initially by THEO BC and Kamloops Food Policy Council. This project provides social and educational opportunities for persons with mental disabilities while encouraging healthy living through food production. Hamish teaches horticultural skills, coordinates staff, volunteers and program participants, and coordinates the distribution of approximately 8,000 pounds of produce annually to agencies such as the Kamloops Food Bank.

Hamish's community involvement is extensive. In the past he has been a director and volunteer with the Kamloops Film Society, a director and vice-president of the Kamloops Farmers' Market Society, an outreach volunteer for the John Howard Society, the New Life Mission and a member of the Kamloops Multicultural Mental Health Advisory Committee. Currently, Hamish is a member of the BC Chapter of the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association, the Kamloops Food Policy Council, and the BC Chapter of the Canadian Horticulture/Interior Health Authority Healthy Living Network.



*From left, Kris Stewart, Karla Mundle-Guido, Hamish Plommer*

# alumni

## staying connected



**Barry Baker**  
Computer Systems Operations  
Management Diploma '91

Since graduating, Barry has been very busy in business and IT. In 1999 he founded a local software company eOptimize Inc. with childhood friend and fellow CSOM grad Dave Harestad and took the company public in 2002 (TSX-V:EOP). In 1997, he married his junior-high sweetheart Christine (pictured with Barry). They have a happy and very busy family with three children (Shae, Hailey, and Brittany) ranging from two years through seventeen.



**Peter Schwirtz**  
Accounting Cert. '82

Peter is a self-employed Financial Planner in Kamloops. Since graduating, he has attended Athabasca University and achieved his Certified Financial Planner designation. He has also had experience in banking, trust companies, public practice accounting, the heavy equipment industry and aboriginal capital corporations. He says "Cariboo College gave me a solid foundation in business and managerial finance. I enjoy my current work with individuals to manage their finances and minimize taxes to maximize wealth creation."



**Quentin Chizek**  
Heavy Duty Mechanics '83

Quentin worked as a Heavy Duty Mechanic for twelve years before deciding going back to school and study Business Administration at Keyano College. He returned to the industry as a Sales and Marketing Manager before starting his own heavy equipment parts business, H.E. Poly Ltd. in Calgary.

**Jacqueline Jones**  
Long Term Care Aide '86

Jacqueline owns and operates R & R Adult Respite Care Services in Kamloops. Her business offers personal support in her home or the client's home and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Her services include Respite and Palliative Care. For more information, please call R & R at 250-579-8078.







**Dave Harestad**  
**Computer Systems Operations Management Diploma '88**

After graduation, Dave's career began in the healthcare information technology (HIT) sector with a long term engagement as a senior technical and project lead with a major Canadian HIT vendor. Dave then founded a software company whose products were later recognized by the BC Science Council for technical innovation. The acquisition of Dave's first venture led to the co-founding of another IT venture - eOptimize Inc. - a company which Dave has led through inception, a transaction to take the company public and full commercialization. eOptimize, which trades publicly under TSX-V:EOP, develops and sells enterprise-wide critical activity and resource scheduling solutions for healthcare and other industry verticals.

**Robert Holden**  
**University Transfer '75**

Bob is now a Chartered Accountant and Partner with KPMG LLP. He graduated from UBC in 1978, and returned to Kamloops to complete his requirements to become a CA in 1980. Bob has been a very active member of the Kamloops community. He was on the executive of the Kamloops Curling Club for many years and actively encouraged the Club to seek international bonspiel opportunities. He played important roles in organizing the Canadian Mixed Championships, the Four West Intercollegiate Championship, the Labatt Briar in 1996, where he was the Vice Chair of the organizing committee, and the 1997 World Curling Championship. Bob was the Finance Chair of the Canada Summer Games, held in Kamloops in 1993, a four year volunteer commitment on his part. Holden continues to serve the community of Kamloops with his volunteer work coaching curling and most recently was a founding member and Board member of the North Thompson Relief Fund, which helped raise and distribute over \$6,500,000 to the forest fire victims of the North Thompson. Bob received the 1998 Distinguished Alumni Award for Service to the Community in recognition for his volunteer work.



**Darcy Heron**  
**Medical Lab Technology '85**

After graduating from Cariboo College, Darcy moved to Vancouver. In 1997, she went to UBC to complete a Bachelors degree in Medical Laboratory Science. She moved in Winnipeg in 1999 and is now working on a Master's degree in Community Health Sciences while working as a Laboratory Specialist for Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics.



# Laddering process evolves to accommodate students

TRU will be an institution at the forefront of multi-disciplinary education providing students effective and innovative ways to achieve their post-secondary goals.

Through an initiative known as laddering, established not long after UCC began offering its first university degrees in 1989-1990, students can receive credit for the education they have completed, not just at this institution, but from schools across Canada, the U.S. and even worldwide.

“Laddering is one of the important characteristics of our programs here and was one of the features that attracted me to this institution,” says Mark Evered, TRU Provost and Vice-President Academic, who arrived last summer from the University of Saskatchewan.



Mark Evered  
Provost and  
Vice-President of Academic

## Patricia Sellmer BA '92, FAD '93, BFA '02

Tricia holds 3 credentials from UCC, a Bachelor of Arts, a Fine Arts Diploma and a Bachelor of Education from UBC and has completed two summer sessions at Emily Carr and an art residency at the School of Visual Arts in New York. Tricia is actively involved in the Kamloops arts community, serving on numerous committees. In 2003, because of her commitment and contributions to the Kamloops Art Gallery, she was honoured with the dedication of a studio in her name, The Tricia Sellmer Studio. Tricia believes that, “An artistic community is a healthy community. A healthy community is a stable community.” Her recent work includes spearheading The Forget Me Not Project, a project of collected public writings and her New York drawings, based on the subject of Alzheimer's and a Catalyst for Change legacy project for A.E. Perry School. She has become an artist of international renown, with works in collections across North America and England. In recognition of her many accomplishments, Tricia was awarded the Distinguished Alumni Award for Arts and Culture Achievement in 2002.

“It provides opportunity and flexibility to students whose aspirations may have been somewhat limited when they first started, or whose career plans have changed. With laddering, they can get credit for work already completed and move to the next step without having to start right from the beginning again,” he explains.

“For example, this can be very useful to a student who might have started a certificate or diploma program and who then decides to complete a bachelor degree. It can be an excellent way to bridge college and university-level studies.”

It can also save a student time and money.

When laddering took shape it focused mainly on mature students who had started a degree program and had not finished. A clear distinction remained between what was considered “university” and what was considered “college.” Over time, the concept grew beyond the co-existence of university and college, and shifted into transference.

TRU Public Relations Director Josh Keller says the concept of laddering isn't widespread through Canadian post-secondary institutions.

“In Ontario, for example, you have universities and you have colleges, and most universities offer only degrees. Many of those universities don't want to give credit for college work of any kind,” he says.

TRU's science department has been a quiet trailblazer for laddering with its two diploma programs: Animal Health Technology and Respiratory Therapy. Those graduates—assuming they meet the GPA—can block transfer the equivalent of one-and-a-half to two years of credits to their undergraduate science degree and fast-track their education.

“That's the beauty and essence of laddering: give people credit for what they have done. Laddering is not traditional university thinking,” Keller says.



It is likely the first new undergraduate degree to be launched by the new Thompson Rivers University will be a Bachelor of Applied and Interdisciplinary Studies, a designation etched from the laddering philosophy that could be in place for September 2005. Students can bring 60 credits from a two-year diploma program and TRU will admit them to third-year studies. From there, students can add third and fourth year courses to get what they want out of the degree program.

“The Applied Interdisciplinary degree is a radical but simple plan. Any credential in Canada, the U.S. and even worldwide will be reviewed for academic legitimacy and granted credit on successful review,” says Keller.

As an example, the new degree would allow a science student who is not wholly interested in conventional lab work to branch into scientific writing (Journalism) or examine the philosophical side of science (Humanities).

Another exciting new program under development that is also based on the laddering approach is a Bachelor of Trades and Technology. The intent is to provide further educational opportunities for people who have just completed trades training or who have been working successfully in a trade, such as a journeyman electrician.

“To the best of our knowledge this degree program will be unique in North America,” says Evered.

The change to TRU also means new opportunities through the acquisition of courses and programs at the former BC Open University. TRU takes responsibility of BCOU April 1, 2005. A transition period will follow and UCC's Colin James has been named Chief Operating Officer of the new Open Learning Division of TRU.

“The birth of a university is a very exciting time and I am pleased to be part of that,” Evered says. “But it is important that we recognize that in many ways we have already been functioning as a university. Where we are now is a tribute to the vision and commitment of our predecessors. We must continue to build on that legacy of a comprehensive, student-centered institution, with the unique strengths and opportunities that a combination of college and university programs provides.”

# Campus Plan – string of pearls

When Adrian Kershaw describes the clusters of TRU campus green space—common areas for staff, students and visitors—he sees a string of pearls.

What may to the casual observer appear as pleasant fortuity scattered park-like through the campus, is actually a carefully planned series of links. These “pearls” of common areas in the landscape are part of TRU’s Campus Plan, the engine driving and controlling campus development.

Kershaw, former Vice-President of Community and Distributed Learning Services for UCC, says the current 10-year campus plan (now in its second year) began with reviewing a series of “snapshots” for accommodating a growing student body. Kershaw worked with scenarios for a campus with 10,000 full-time equivalent (FTE) students as well as plans for 13,000 FTE students with a “build-out” to 16,000.

“Having this ten-year plan in place now with the switch to Thompson Rivers University is critical,” says Kershaw, now a consultant living in Sidney, B.C. “It drives the evolution of the campus and will keep it from looking like a mish-mash of projects.”

As the university grows over time, new campus plans will emerge. The current plan, for example, is the offspring of a similar ten-year plan designed in 1990. Josh Keller, Public Relations Director at TRU, says campus life was born from that.

“In 1989, the new UCC was a commuter college. Students went to classes and then they left,” Keller says. “There was no real college life. We realized that we needed to create social and recreational space on campus for students to have a campus life.”

The college bought 150 acres of provincially owned property (beyond where the Campus Activity Centre and Trades and Technology building stand, including the benchlands overlooking the city) and this purchase kick-started the campus planning process in 1990.

“The 1990 plan was really the foundation for creating the cohesive feel that the institution has now. It set the guidelines for the campus you see today,” Kershaw says.

It laid out the location of buildings and the use of brick for buildings. The result is a visual theme that knits the campus together. The plan even embraced the older legacy buildings such as Old Main, to reflect the theme. Design characteristics were mapped out for landscaping, with design parameters for pathways and lawns to complement the buildings and layout. Planners set up enclosed green spaces within the campus to move smoothly from one building to another.

Community projects also presented UCC with opportunity, such as the 1993 Canada Games. Keller drafted the part of the bid that outlined UCC’s contribution to the games, including an ambitious plan to build a Campus Activity Centre to feed 5,000 athletes.

“We didn’t know if we could actually build it with our own money,” Keller says.

“The provincial government said, ‘You can’t borrow money because you’re not a university.’ We said, ‘Change the legislation.’ And they did,” Keller says. “There has always been an entrepreneurial spirit here — a willingness to take a risk and be innovative.”

*See NEW LEARNING on Page 24*



During the late 1990s the initial Campus Plan began to show signs of outliving its shelf life. This was brought to a head when development of a parcel of land at McGill Road and Summit Drive was proposed. The location was the parking lot used by students, which lies just below and opposite to the Real Canadian Superstore. In particular, rumours of a gas station going up had prompted new questions that the old plan could not answer.

Adrian Kershaw, former Vice-President of Community and Distributed Learning Services for UCC, says the new issues prompted the institution to meet with city planners and an enhanced partnership developed to recognize UCC as a vibrant part of the city and its economy.

“The institution’s enormous growth spurt during the 1990s was focused solely on the needs of the university. This potential development pointed to the fact that we needed to look outside the boundaries of the campus and focus on our connection with the urban developments going on around us. In short, we needed to solidify our relationship with the City of Kamloops so that we could help shape the planning of land uses adjacent to our campus,” Kershaw says.

The joint city-university McGill corridor and Southgate planning project included local landowners, students and interested citizens in a collaborative process. The resulting plan will help people move more freely across McGill to access the planned retail outlets and offices to be developed across the street from the university campus.

John Popoff, Community Planning Supervisor for the City of Kamloops, says the McGill corridor is an important and busy vehicle route, which makes it challenging for pedestrians to cross. Along with improvements to pedestrian linkages, he suggests residential housing could be part of the area’s future.

“The McGill corridor-Southgate planning initiative would see additional housing in walking distance of the campus and, perhaps, pedestrian and bike paths from the downtown to encourage more residential development in the city’s core.”

**TRU – City relationship stronger after planning on McGill Road**

## 1992

UCC adopts new logo. Campus Activity Centre under construction. Canada Games Pool under construction. Bachelor of Natural Resource Science degree brings UCC degree total to seven. English and Psychology majors offered. Adventure Travel Guide and Events & Conventions Management programs begin. First Bachelor of Social Work degrees granted. Second phase of Arts and Education Building construction begins.

## 1993

Campus Activity Centre opens. UCC hosts Canada Summer Games events and athlete's village. Second phase of Arts and Education building opened. New campus daycare facility opened. Canada Games Pool and Hillside Stadium track house opened. Williams Lake campus extension opens. Ashcroft Centre opens. Wells Gray Education and Research Centre opens. Bookstore relocates to Campus Activity Centre.

## 1994

Faculty expanded to 326. New Trades and Technology Centre planned and funded. Merritt Centre built. Lillooet Centre opens. UCC Model United Nations Team wins Best Delegation at North American Model UN competition in Toronto.

## 1995

UCC introduces interactive television for regional programming. Students across Canada hold mass rallies protesting the federal government's plan to cut educational transfer payments to the provinces.

through the years

# Open Learning accessible anytime from anywhere

For over 25 years the British Columbia Open University (BCOU), a division of the Open Learning Agency, has been providing learners with flexible access to distance education.



Marie McDonnell

One such learner is Marie McDonnell. Seven years ago, Marie received a diploma in marketing from an institute in BC. After moving to Calgary and working full-time in the travel industry, Marie began to realize that not having a degree was holding her back professionally, and that she may have to resume her educational journey.

"I knew I would be limited as to the management level I could achieve. Also, I wanted to ensure I would never be in a negative position when it came to salary review – something I had come across in the past, due to the lack of a degree," explains McDonnell.

Her full-time workload and schedule did not allow her to commit to night school, so Marie looked for other options. She found BCOU would provide her with a full transfer of credits from her diploma. Also, the flexibility of distance education meant she could fit school around her schedule and continue her education from Alberta.

Through BCOU, McDonnell completed courses at her own pace and was able to stay motivated to finish the entire program. She says finding the right balance between work, school, and life was key, especially with a challenging degree program like BCOU's Bachelor of Business Administration.

"A BCOU degree is well-recognized and just as hard, if not harder, to earn as one from a bricks and mortar university."

Marie received her degree from BCOU in May 2003, along with 1,000 others who were granted certificates, diplomas, and degrees.

Distance education also worked for Darrell Janssen. It had to, because Darrell spends 12 to 14 hours a day managing a crew of technicians, electricians, mechanics, and welders on a drill ship that explores for oil in oceans around the world. Most weeks he's thousands of kilometers from a traditional classroom.

In 2003, Darrell was part of the design team for a new drill ship. Set for construction, the ship will be state-of-the-art, with cutting-edge

electronics and satellite navigational systems. Darrell was responsible for commissioning the electrical and electronic equipment. He modestly states, "It's not as romantic as it may sound but very hard work indeed."

Despite his hectic schedule and an average, grueling workday that often spans from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Darrell managed to complete an Advanced Certificate in Management with BCOU. He achieved a grade point average (GPA) of 4.27, the highest amongst fifteen students who completed the certificate. Darrell says his studies were key in developing his management skills. And these skills were critical to building quality relationships with foreign workers and private business people involved in the new drill ship project.

Finding study time wasn't easy. Darrell had to rise at 3:30 a.m. in order to fit studies into his schedule. The flexibility of BCOU courses allowed him to access course materials at any time. He also discovered he could test his newly acquired knowledge on the job. Not only did this validate what he was learning, he could see the principles and practices of his leadership training in action.

Many of the competency courses, such as Open Thinking, The Inquiring Leader, and Open Communication, applied to Darrell's goal of becoming a successful people manager.

"It takes dedication to your employees to be a good leader," Darrell stresses. "In the Taoist philosophy, the success you give to your subordinates returns to you a hundredfold. I truly believe this, and my education has proven it."

Darrell's enthusiasm caught the attention of his company vice-president, who acknowledged that Darrell's hard work resulted in the company's finest team with the best working record in the entire fleet. It's a success that will be used as a model for other ships. Wherever his career takes him, Darrell knows his efforts were worthwhile, stating, "It's nice to know there is a payoff for all the hard work at school."

In addition to business programs, Open Learning also offers certificate, diploma and degree programs in arts and science, health science, and technology. As part of Thompson Rivers University, the tradition of open and flexible access to education will continue, wherever students may reside.

# Internationalization at Thompson Rivers University

Over the past 20 years, The University College of the Cariboo, now Thompson Rivers University, has established an extensive portfolio of international activities ranging from expanding student exchange opportunities and welcoming international students to Kamloops, to undertaking collaborative projects with partners around the world.

Today, international projects and linkages extend to more than 25 countries and more than 45 countries are represented among the international student body in Kamloops. And on the TRU campus, students, faculty, and visiting professionals from Canada and around the world participate in the increasingly global exchange of culture, ideas, and knowledge—this is truly where the world meets the university.

These international initiatives create opportunities for TRU students and faculty, promote cultural awareness and understanding, and contribute to the internationalization of the TRU curriculum. International programs at TRU also play a vital role in establishing cultural, economic, and community connections between Kamloops and the world. Recent studies estimate that international activity at TRU contributes \$60 million to the local economy, a figure that is forecast to grow to as much as \$120 million annually over the next five years.

International programs at the university are led by TRU World, a department previously known as UCC International until the establishment of Thompson Rivers University this year, that coordinates education, training, and development services for international projects and partners.

“Thompson Rivers University is a Canadian leader in international education, and this has significant economic and educational benefits for our community, our faculty, and our students”, says TRU World executive director Cyndi McLeod. “We are living in a time of unprecedented global exchange, and TRU is committed to connecting its community with the full range of experience and opportunity the world has to offer.”

TRU’s international programs span four major areas: international training and development projects, linkages with foreign institutions, student and faculty exchange, and educational services for international students on the TRU campus in Kamloops.

Over the past decade alone, TRU has realized a dramatic increase in international activity.

The campus now hosts an average of 750 international students each semester. Other areas of international activity have also experienced rapid growth, as illustrated by the examples below.

## **Training, consulting, and development projects delivered in Canada and/or abroad.**

For example, the Svinia Project saw TRU faculty help a distressed Roma (Gypsy) settlement in Slovakia participate in local governance and develop livestock production and micro-enterprise as ways of surviving within the local market economy. Another recent project brought Malaysian trainees to Kamloops for an intensive program in International Trade, Banking, and Finance. The trainees received customized programs dealing with the nature and scope of international trade theory and policy, along with related banking and finance issues, and then completed industrial placements in leading Canadian financial and trade offices.

These types of projects are often delivered in cooperation with local partners, often universities or other educational institutes, and local communities. A recently established project, for example, is building strong ties between First Nations communities in the Kamloops area and Chilean aboriginal groups in order to encourage community-based tourism development in Chile.

**Collaborative delivery of academic programs with academic partners.** Two projects recently awarded to Thompson Rivers University will serve as fine examples here. This year alone, TRU hosted 400 teachers from China on the Kamloops campus for intensive language and teacher-training studies. And also this year, TRU will play an important role in a World Bank training contract designed to strengthen the curriculum and faculty of private technology institutes in Chile.

*See INTERNATIONAL BUILDING ... Page 24*



*TRU's new International Building*



**Ted Everson  
Bachelor of Science '94**

After graduation Ted completed a Master of Science degree in Medical Genetics at the University of British Columbia and a Master of Arts in the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology at the University of Toronto. Ted is currently completing a PhD in the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology. His academic interest is the social context and social implications of the increasing use of genetics in explaining population health disparities. In May 2005, Ted began a position as a Staff Historian of Biotechnology at the Chemical Heritage Foundation in Philadelphia, PA ([www.chemheritage.org](http://www.chemheritage.org)), a private foundation that studies the scientific, social and economic foundations of modern industrial chemistry and biotechnology. Friends and classmates can contact Ted at [ted.everson@gmail.com](mailto:ted.everson@gmail.com)

## **Jordan Henry, Business Administration '86**

Jordan attended SFU and received his trade certification as a Journeyman Bricklayer. In 1994, he started Cardero Masonry in Kamloops. He presently has three employees working with cultured stone, retaining walls, brick, glass block, concrete blocks and concrete repairs.

# Foundation's role more important than ever

For the past 23 years, the UCC Foundation and its donors have made tremendous contributions to the lives of UCC students as they work toward and achieve their post-secondary goals.

As UCC becomes Thompson Rivers University, the Foundation's role in helping to shape the direction of the institution and its student body becomes ever more important.

Already individuals, businesses and groups who have contributed through the Foundation have played a part by raising more than \$20 million for student awards and programs over the years. During the past fiscal year, the Foundation awarded students a grand total \$1,000,300, surpassing last year's total by \$230,300.

The UCC Foundation's volunteer board of 14 directors and the volunteer society made up of an additional 46 community leaders, works diligently to raise over \$1 million per year for student awards, program needs and special projects at UCC, says Kathleen Biagioni, the Foundation's executive director.

The Foundation likens these and other contributions to the ripple effect that occurs when a pebble hits the water.

"As we experience positive growth in enrollment, the unmet financial need at TRU grows. In the past year, through our tremendous donor support, we were able to help about 1,000 students – our largest amount ever," says Biagioni. "We would like to see the ripples reach farther and our pool of support go deeper to create more awards and enhanced programming for TRU."

Each year, through the dedicated work of the Foundation staff, board and society along with the tremendous support of the university and the people of Kamloops and area, the Foundation has seen the level of financial assistance grow, says Foundation Board Chair Dave Shaw.

"We have capitalized on the success of our annual events such as the Gala, which had record results in February of this year. For the future, the Foundation has embarked on a Planned Giving program which will ensure the security of financial support in the years to come."

The Annual Giving program aims to create strategic partnerships with groups within the community who understand the needs of students and who will focus some of their efforts and fund-raising abilities for the benefit of the Foundation, explains Shaw.

At the Foundation, every gift is valued and valuable. Annual Fund gifts sustain and grow our awards base; gifts to programs or athletics enhance the quality of a student's experience. A planned gift, now or from your estate, is a gift that will last a lifetime and leave the sort of legacy for your community that your family will be proud of, adds Biagioni.

To make a donation to the UCC Foundation, to find out more about creating a student award fund or to establish a planned gift or legacy to UCC, please call 250-828-5266.



Kathleen Biagioni  
Executive Director of Foundation

## Alumni Donors –

### Anthony Muzzillo and Michael Schreiner – Smith Chevrolet Cadillac

Business partners Anthony Muzzillo and Michael Schreiner have contributed toward two scholarships through the Foundation on an annual basis for those students interested in a career in the automotive field. One contribution is awarded to a marketing student and the other is for a student interested in the automotive trades.



Jeff Guthrie  
Bachelor of Science '99

Moved to Ottawa shortly after graduation to pursue graduate studies at Carleton University. In June 2004, he received his Ph.D. in Analytical/Environmental Chemistry on the topic of metal speciation in freshwaters. After a summer drive across the country, he started his postdoctoral position at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, where he is currently working on the development of highly sensitive bioanalytical techniques for studying DNA damage; a key determinant in the early stages of carcinogenesis, cancer therapy, and ageing. Friends and classmates can contact Jeff at [jeff.guthrie@ualberta.ca](mailto:jeff.guthrie@ualberta.ca)

"A couple of years ago we were able to hire a partsperson that came through the UCC trades program. That experience has been a very positive one and it's programs like that that make contributing to the Foundation a worthwhile investment," says Muzzillo.

Muzzillo also helped to lead the initiative in gaining university status for UCC through a community-founded group called the Friends of UCC.

"In British Columbia we were in dire need for more accessibility outside of the Lower Mainland

for another university. Kamloops, as a major centre, was an obvious place to establish a new university," he says. "We were already fulfilling the needs for many students in our area and certainly beyond with our progressive international enrollments."

Muzzillo and Schreiner, born and raised in Kamloops, both recognize that through supporting students and the Foundation they are making their hometown a better place to live and work.



Anthony Muzzillo

Schreiner, who was an accounting student in the 1970s, says "Community support has been a cornerstone of our corporate philosophy at Smith Chevrolet Cadillac. As a corporate donor, one of my annual highlights is to present our students with awards. It is recognizing that as business owners we have a direct stake in the our community's future and in the next generation."

"University status and the diverse programming at TRU will provide Kamloops the opportunity to establish itself as a place where there is a post secondary education institution, adding to commerce, culture and tourism for our area."

Additionally, Smith Chevrolet Cadillac has established a memorial endowment to honour the memory of a long serving employee, Les Veale, and is awarded to a top auto mechanic repair or parts person student.

To establish your endowment or an annual award contact the Foundation at 828-5264 or [www.tru.ca](http://www.tru.ca)



Michael Schreiner

## James McCreath Bachelor of Journalism, '02

James was a member of the Sun Demons badminton team for two years and he still stays in touch with a number of great friends he made at UCC. He lives in Calgary where he started his own investor relations company, Byson Communications. James is returning to school in the spring to do his MBA at Royal Roads University in Victoria.



Kathleen Biagioni, Foundation Executive Director, (left), is pictured with Dave Shaw, board chair, and legacy donors Dr. and Mrs. Bas and Shankaramma Gowd at this year's Gala, where the donor wall was unveiled.

## Donor Wall recognizes Foundation contributors

Beautiful glass panels designed to emulate flowing water are the backdrop for the TRU Foundation's first donor wall, which recognizes individuals, businesses and groups who have helped by contributing financially to the success of UCC/TRU students and programs.

The wall stands outside the Grand Hall in the Campus Activity Centre and was completed in February 2005 by local designer Fred Bosman to coincide with the Foundation's annual fund-raising gala and in time for the Inaugural Convocation March 31.

"The donor wall is the foundation of our newly established donor recognition program. The program offers elements of recognition to donors in seven giving categories," says Kathleen Biagioni, the Foundation's Executive Director.

"We are grateful for donors who choose to give to the university and for their support."

### Annual Donors – Russ & Wendy Gardner – Valhalla Pure

Annual donors Russ and Wendy Gardner have more than one connection with Thompson Rivers University. As owners of Valhalla Pure in Kamloops, the couple picked up where the previous store owner, Paula Levens, left off. When the Gardners purchased the store a couple of years ago, they made the commitment to continue with a \$500 bursary program awarded annually to a student in the Adventure diploma program. They took the

giving spirit a step further, establishing a \$500 award to a student in the Bachelor of Natural Resource Science program, where Wendy is a faculty member. Russ says being part of the Foundation's donor programs has had special meaning for the couple. They often have students come in and personally thank them for their financial contribution and the difference it has made.

Most universities have a place to publicly recognize those who have contributed gifts to their respective institutions and the completion of the Foundation donor wall design fits in well with the launch of Thompson Rivers University.

"Donor names have been printed on clear acetate between two acrylic panels that are suspended between stainless-steel cables," explains Bosman.

The mounting procedure will make it possible to change and update donor's names without interfering with the panels, he adds.

The design was conceptualized by the Foundation to emulate the flow of water into a foundation of river rock. These elements work well as symbols, both for the image of the new university and for the Foundation.

### 1996

Campus Ring Road established. UCC undergoes internal and external review. UCC hosts BC Festival of the Arts and BCCAA Men's Basketball playoffs. UCC's 100th degree granted. UCC opens Student Job Centre.

### 1997

UCC Bachelor of Tourism Management degree and Bachelor of Technology in Applied Computing Science degree programs offered for the first time. President Jim Wright resigns, VP Instruction Neil Russell appointed Interim President. Trades and Technology Centre officially opens. UCC admitted to Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC). Williams Lake Campus building shifts, with all programs forced to vacate.

### 1998

UCC Bachelor of Journalism degree offered for the first time. Dr. Roger Barnsley hired as President. First UCC BAs awarded. Men's soccer team wins National Championship, the first for UCC. UCC initiates Strategic Planning process.

### 1999

First UCC Bachelor of Technology in Applied Computing Science and Bachelor of Tourism Management degree students graduate. UCC student radio station established. UCC completes first official externally funded project in Nepal. UCC offers Computer Systems: Operations and Management diploma program at three technical institutes in Malaysia. UCC's 100-Mile House Skills and Education Centre becomes BC's first Distance Learning Support Centre. UCC and School District #73 open three new Career-Technical centres at high schools in Kamloops. Weekend University program implemented in partnership with the University of Northern BC and regional First Nations groups.

through the years

**Anita Sharma**  
**Bachelor of Arts '97**

After graduating, Anita spent a year in the Acadian Peninsula, teaching English part time in a predominately French area. She then spent a year taking ESL training and doing private tutoring for Junior and Senior high school students. In 1998, she completed the International Montessori Certification (AMI Diploma) in Vancouver, which allows her to work anywhere in the world in the Montessori field. From 1998 to 1999, Anita taught as a full time Montessori teacher in South Surrey and in 1999, obtained her Independent Schools Teaching Diploma, enabling her to teach in most private schools in BC. In 1999, she began teaching at Gatehouse Montessori School in West Vancouver, a non-profit school run by a board of directors. Gatehouse has been in existence for over 25 years and offers a true Montessori program which incorporates Music, French and Fine Arts. In 2003, she was accepted the position of Principal. Anita says, "I am thoroughly enjoying my profession. I enjoy promoting the school through advertising, open houses and fundraising events. I also enjoy the contact with the parents and of course the children."



**Ian Giesbrecht**  
**Bachelor of Arts '02**

While a student, Ian volunteered extensively at the Omega student newspaper and CFBX, the campus radio station. In 2004, he completed a diploma in

Broadcast Journalism at BCIT. Following a short stint at CHNL in Kamloops, he moved north to work for CBC Radio. Ian is an Associate Producer/Office Manager for Daybreak North Prince Rupert. During his time at UCC he hosted two shows at The X and wrote the weekly column "On the Flip Side." He says he couldn't have done it without the folks at CFBX, who were desperate and kind enough to give him his first on-air experience.



# Beyond the classroom: services that support students

Though some people refer to their university days as the best years of their lives, students don't always have it made. Many struggle to balance full course loads and part-time jobs, while worrying about bills, student loans, and passing that big mid-term.

"It's basically a full-time job with more erratic hours," says Ernie Ware, Cariboo Student Society manager.

To help students survive their hectic lives, the Division of Student Development and the Student Society have expanded to offer a much greater range of services, from orientation to make the transition into post-secondary as smooth as possible, all the way to employment services for graduates as they prepare to enter the workplace.

And there's help for most every undertaking in between — counselling, financial aid, health and wellness, recreation, medical and dental coverage. Students hardly need to leave the campus.

"It's almost a student's one-stop shop. We don't, as students — especially full-time students — have a lot of time to make appointments during the day. So I think that having the services on campus gives everybody a better opportunity to utilize them," says Ware.

"Of course we want to assist students with immediate needs, but student support is also more than that," says Susie Safford, Dean of Student Development.

"Everything that happens to them contributes to their intellectual, emotional, psychological, and social growth. I see the various service initiatives that we've undertaken as contributing to the educational development of our students."

The Division of Student Development is continually reassessing the needs of students and coming up with new ways to ensure those needs are met. Safford is especially excited about a couple of initiatives the division is currently focusing on.

One example is Supplemental Learning, which involves students helping students. Faculty members choose students who are strong in a particular field to assist their peers. The students providing help, called SL Leaders, get the chance to develop their leadership skills, while students who may be struggling receive the assistance they need.

Another program offers various single-credit courses to teach students important life skills.

"Foundations for Success is going to look very broadly at a whole range of things that will help a student be academically successful and grow personally, take advantage of opportunities to learn skills in leadership and communication," says Safford. "They'll develop those skills that will make them successful not only here in their campus environment, but that they'll take with them for the rest of their lives."

"It's a really creative, exciting place to be working right now," says Safford.

The Division of Student Development and the Cariboo Student Society have developed a very extensive list of services and they also act as a referral centre to other support agencies in the community. Everything they do contributes to the quality of university life.

"As you grow as an institution you really want it to have a community feel," says Ware.

"Definitely UCC has done a lot of great things over the last little while. I think the university has taken some really good steps to create better services for all students."

"The work that we do helps shape how students feel about their time here, about the nature of the total experience that they have on campus, and I think that's an enormously important factor in a university's character," adds Safford.



# The multicultural experience

When Geoff Wilmshurst came to Kamloops more than a year ago for a job interview with The University College of the Cariboo, he wasn't sure what to expect.

Coming here from New York, he wondered what UCC's International Department would consist of, tucked away in the Interior of beautiful British Columbia.

He was pleasantly surprised.

"I was blown away by what's going on here," says Wilmshurst. "Not just the Study Abroad Centre but the whole international program. For the size of the school, for the location, you would never expect it. UCC's international program is as good as any at comparable sized schools in Canada."

Wilmshurst quickly dove into his new role as Study Abroad manager, working to give students opportunities to study at universities in other parts of the world. From France to Finland, Austria, to Australia, TRU students can travel to numerous world destinations to enhance their post-secondary education.

"It's really important because we live in a world that's becoming smaller, really. Students need to be able to interact across cultures, they need to be able to interact using language skills other than just English," says Wilmshurst.

TRU is also dedicated to bringing international students to the Kamloops campus, and to offering education programs and partnerships in other parts of the world.

Vera Wojna, associate director of UCC International, which has a new name – TRU World – says the institution has provided a great deal of support in working towards the vision of an international, multicultural campus.

"We're just so pleased that the institution, in the hopes that UCC International continues to flourish, is supporting that growth and that prominence by having an international building," she says of the new International Building facility, which hosts its grand opening, March 31.

Wojna says the department strives to expand the minds of local and international students.

"When you go abroad as a tourist, it has an impact. But when you go abroad to study or to work, you get more involved with the normal, everyday aspects, so you get a much better sense of how others live and what the issues are day to day," says Wojna.

"You're not just dealing with the vendors and the hotels, which can be a more superficial experience of the country. You are fully engaged in meeting your counterparts."

In the multicultural mosaic that is Canada, TRU also attracts many students from across the province and country of aboriginal ancestry and currently has one of the largest aboriginal student populations among B.C.'s post-secondary institutions.

"When cultures come together, no matter what cultures they are, there's always a wellspring of different ways to do things and a wellspring of different ideas," says Joanne Coombes Brown, coordinator of services for Aboriginal students.

"I think by having a large number of aboriginal students here, we can see a new perspective of ideas and experiences."

The First Nations Student Association and the Aboriginal Cultural Centre are initiatives designed to offer support and assistance to aboriginal students and have benefited the campus as a whole providing a better understanding of aboriginal issues.



through the years

## 2000

*UCC creates and dedicates "Pioneer Wall," honouring the contributions of 124 UCC Pioneers. UCC Strategic Planning exercise results in identification of six key areas. UCC's website launched. UCC resumes operations in nine locations throughout Williams Lake. UCC and Nicola Valley Institute of Technology break ground for new joint campus in Merritt. UCC introduces Aboriginal Studies certificate program. UCC introduces first honours degree. Government funds new UCC Animal Health Technology program facilities. UCC opens new medical clinic on campus.*

## 2001

*UCC's Bachelor of Education degree program rated highest in province by BC College of Teachers. New Child and Youth Care diploma program launched. UCC/Canadian Home Builders Association Training House project wins gold award at Thompson Okanagan Housing Awards. UCC Respiratory Therapy program opens Sleep Clinic. UCC receives \$1.5 million Research Chairs award.*

# International Building will help diversify student body

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TRU also provides programs to a growing number of students enrolled through accredited partners overseas. This offshore enrollment is projected to exceed 1,000 students by the end of 2005.

## Student and faculty exchange agreements.

With the aim of giving students and faculty the chance to gain firsthand international experience, TRU has established exchange agreements in countries as varied as Germany, and Japan, and with partner-institutions

throughout Australia, Europe, Asia, and South America.

“International study is not only a way to complete credit toward a field of study,” notes Study Abroad Manager Geoff Wilmshurst. “It’s also a valuable experience in personal development, improving language skills, and developing cultural understanding.”

Such exchange agreements can be as straightforward as the one with the University of Cologne—where Cologne and TRU students trade places for periods ranging from one semester to a full year—or they can be more complex and structured, such as the TRU field school that allows Anthropology students to complete a credit course as they travel through the Czech Republic, Croatia, Slovakia, and the Ukraine.

## Programming for international students at the Thompson Rivers University.

While many international students begin their studies at Thompson Rivers University in English as a Second Language (ESL) courses, they often go on to take other college and university courses (80% of TRU’s international students are enrolled in academic courses). International Admissions Officers and the International Student Advisor team at TRU work closely together to orient new students and to support them during their studies in Canada.

With a solid foundation in place, Thompson Rivers University is committed to increasing and strengthening its international programs and working relationships around the world. The university will welcome a record number of international trainees in 2005: more than 550 trainees and students will participate in study tour and specialized teacher training programs through the summer and fall of 2005, with student groups coming from China, Taiwan, and

Japan. “This year’s dramatic increase in short-term programs reflects Thompson Rivers University’s growing reputation as an international destination for teacher training,” notes TRU World’s Cyndi McLeod.

Having established a wide range of active partnerships in Asia, TRU is now strengthening ties with Latin America. Along with the recently awarded World Bank project in Chile, there is also a new Panama project that will bring Panamanian students to TRU and create new opportunities for joint programming and credit transfer with Panamanian partners.

2005 marks a number of major milestones for Kamloops’ university, and for its international programs as well. Along with the transition to full university status, and the expansion of programs and facilities that this will bring to TRU, international students and faculty now also have a state-of-the-art facility to call home. With its \$12 million budget financed entirely by international programs, the three-storey, 50,000 square-foot International Building will allow TRU to expand its international enrollment to an estimated 1,200 students annually over the next five years. And the opening of the International Building brings new language labs, classrooms, meeting rooms, and leisure space—for both international and Canadian students—to the heart of the TRU campus.

“This new building will allow us to diversify our international student body even more,” says McLeod. “It will also increase the course sections available for both domestic and international students—as the fees paid by each international student helps support spaces for two Canadian students. This increased enrollment will also require additional instructors, therefore creating more job opportunities in our community as well.”

## 2002

*Black Box Theatre and International Centre funded. Animal Health Technology Centre opens. UCC Kamloops launches Weekend University. First graduates of Master of Social Work program in collaboration with UBC convocate. UCC School of Nursing receives five-year approval for BSN program from RNABC. UCC Foundation celebrates 20th anniversary; inaugurates 55-member Foundation Society.*

## 2003

*UCC Study Abroad Centre opens. UCC Aboriginal Cultural Centre opens. UCC hosts international Canadian Studies conference. UCC offers 2nd-year engineering in collaboration with UBC. Friends of UCC University begin name-change campaign.*

## 2004

*Provincial government designates UCC as BC’s new university, Thompson Rivers University, with its own legislation governed by an open mandate. As part of the new university transition, UCC also acquires the British Columbia Open University and Open College.*

## 2005

*March 31, 2005, UCC officially becomes Thompson Rivers University highlighted by an inaugural convocation that includes dignitaries and invited guests from across BC, Canada and from around the world. New international building hosts a grand opening April 1.*

through the years

## New learning comes from transition

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That spirit drove the institution’s push for university status, and when Thompson Rivers University becomes a reality in April the building and infrastructure activity will soar.

“It looks as though the transition to TRU means a significant flow of capital dollars,” Kershaw says. “One of the biggest issues is the new library. The current library is very cramped. The new library would have an information commons that is given to information technologies.”

In the past six years, Capital Planning and Projects Manager Phil Hanmer has acquired the funding for—and completed—some \$42 million worth of new buildings and roads at the campus. There have also been major mechanical and electrical upgrades over the years. Now, he will only be getting busier.

“The TRU plan changed everything. Between

1999 and 2009 we’re looking at spending about \$150 million,” Hanmer says. “Now we have to build a new building for the BCOU-UCC merge and it must be ready by Summer 2006.”

Hanmer’s multimillion-dollar project list for 2006 also includes:

- a new \$12-million campus in Williams Lake
- a \$3.5-million warehouse behind the Trades and Technology building
- a \$1-million expansion of the print shop

“One of the biggest potential projects to affect this place would be the student residence, which could have 550 beds,” Hanmer says. “There’s no contract in place yet, but they are working on it. These would offer four-bedroom, two-bedroom and one-bedroom apartments with a million-dollar view.”



*Thompson Rivers University  
Kamloops Campus*



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Celebrating the opening of the new TRU International Building, March 31, 2005



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