March 2011

President’s Report
to the TRU Board of Governors

News

► The Honorable Wally Oppal, one of the country’s most well-known and respected lawyers and advocates for justice was named Chancellor. He was Crown Counsel and Defence Counsel on numerous high-profile criminal cases and is currently Commissioner of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry. A formal installation ceremony for the Chancellor, and President and Vice-Chancellor will be June 8.

► President’s Lecture Series – The latest President’s Lecture Series featuring Wade Davis was extremely well attended. Dr. Davis, who has been described as a “rare combination of scientist, scholar, poet, and passionate defender of all of life’s diversity,” did not disappoint the over 850-member audience who gathered in the CAC Grand Hall on March 1.

► Destination TRU – Efforts to provide insight into marketing the University to area secondary students earned 12 local secondary school students each a TRU scholarship, an iPad and Smart Boards for Westsyde, NorKam and Valleyview Secondary schools. The Destination TRU initiative was launched earlier this fall to help TRU develop a national profile and engagement strategy aimed at attracting and retaining students from outside Kamloops and the Interior.

► New Youth Leadership Course in Williams Lake – Experiential Youth Leadership is a new, special topics course offered at the TRU Williams Lake Campus. This course incorporates the principles and applications of experiential education into working with client groups who can benefit from the direct experience and authenticity of challenge activities designed to foster problem solving abilities, increase self esteem and greater social competence.

► Aboriginal Awareness Week was March 14 to 18 and featured many activities to inform the campus community about the range of Aboriginal Nations on campus. Showcases and workshops included Secwepemc, T’selkwa’tk, Carrier, Nuxalk, Cree, Ojibway, Okanagan, Sekani, Inuit, and Metis; indigenous nations each with a distinct language and culture and rich and compelling histories to discover.

► Camp Out On Campus – Thompson Rivers University students, faculty, and staff were asked to spend a night under the stars on March 22, to raise funds to help youth at risk in Kamloops. Interior Community Services (ICS), in partnership with Thompson Rivers University’s Department of Human Services students and faculty who were willing to camp out and collected pledges from the community supporting youth outreach programs in the Kamloops area.

► Second Annual TRU Sleep Conference was held March 18 to 20 on campus. Coordinated by Respiratory Therapy, the multidisciplinary event featured a public presentation titled, “Finding the magic pill? The Good, Bad and Ugly of Sleep Meds” by pharmacist Chris Cameron along with 13 exhibitors and sessions by academics and practitioners.

► TRU Spring Break Experience – The annual TRU Spring Break Experience was back on campus March 21 to 25. The casual and informative event helped prospective post-secondary students find the resources and strategies needed to be successful and get the most out of their post-secondary experience.

► The “W” Campaign by Student Services during the week of March 6 aimed to raise awareness for the academic option of withdrawal. Student leaders picketed the campus with “W” placards and students and staff were spotted with green t-shirts emblazoned with a “W” to inform students of the choice to save their GPA by the March 11 deadline.

► Dr. Wendy Hulko, Associate Professor School of Social Work, has been awarded a $213,700 grant from the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research through the BC Nursing Research Initiative for the community-based research project, Culturally Safe Dementia Care: Building Nursing Capacity to Care for First Nation Elders with Memory Loss. Practitioner co-lead is Elisabeth Antifeau of Interior Health. The project fosters an ongoing collaboration between researchers, practitioners and Secwepemc Nation Elders.
News continued

TRU Williams Lake hosted its 2nd Annual Community Science Celebration with Science World on March 5. An estimated 1,400 visitors came to campus for the displays and activities.

Try-A-Trade, sponsored by the TRU School of Trades and Technology was held Friday, March 4 giving an opportunity to area youth to practice some of the “hands-on” skills used on a daily basis by automotive technicians, cabinet makers, carpenters, electricians and welders.

BC Year of Science was celebrated at TRU on February 24 in conjunction with Science World. A revival of Cariboo College Science Night, there were many exciting hands-on demos and exhibits throughout the Science Building and Gymnasium.

The TRU Foundation launched its Giving Back Campaign on March 7. The annual appeal encourages faculty and staff for payroll contributions to student awards and research. For more information about Giving Back, check out tru.ca/foundation

Publications:

Cindy James, Assessment Centre
Sarah Graham, Office of Vice-Provost Students

Wallace K. Hutchings, Sociology and Anthropology

Griff Richards, Instructional Design Group - TRUOL

Monica Sanchez, Sociology and Anthropology

Jenna Woodrow, Philosophy, History and Politics

Julie Drolet, School of Social Work


Julie Drolet, Natalie Clark
Social Work and Human Service


Bruce Baugh, Philosophy, History and Political Science

Baugh, B., “Space and Place: Walking Through Kamloops,” Mosaic, a journal for the interdisciplinary study of literature, Vol. 43, No. 3 (September 2010).


Peter Tsigaris, Economics

Presentations:

- **Dr. Michael Mehta, Faculty of Arts**
  Public lecture “Xenotransplantation: Just how slippery is that slope?”
  Gabriola Island, BC, March 8.

- **Julie Drolet, Department of Social Work**
  Dr. Julie Drolet was invited by the UNESCO Regional Unit in Social and Human Sciences for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCO Bangkok) in collaboration with the Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace, to present at the UNESCO Conference on Gender, Peace, Disaster and Climate Change, March 10–12 in Bangkok, Thailand.

- **Griff Richards, Irwin DeVries Instructional Design Group – TRUOL**

- **Peter Tsigaris, Department of Economics**

Achievements:

- **Ginny Ratsoy, English and Modern Languages**
  Ginny Ratsoy has been elected to a two-year term (2011–2013) of representative for British Columbia in the recent Canadian Association for Theatre Research Board election.

- **Wendy McKenzie, School of Nursing**
  Wendy McKenzie was awarded the City of Kamloops Heritage Award on February 26, 2011, for work preserving the military heritage of Kamloops.

- **Jeanette Murray and Joanne Jones, School of Nursing**
  Jeanette Murray and Joanne Jones will be the recipients of the 2011 College of Registered Nurses of BC Excellence in Nursing Education Award on April 7.

- **TRU Distinguished Alumni Awards** are recognizing three distinguished graduates, one current student for outstanding community contributions and professional achievements and an organization that has worked closely with TRU for 20 years to fulfill the practical education requirements of students.
  Alex Parker - BSc ’94: Scientific Research Award
  Shima Iuchi - BFA ’03: Arts and Culture Award
  Marcia Julian - BSW ’98: Grace Chronister Award
  Chelsey Tennant - BBA ’11: TRU Rising Star: Student Leadership Award
  Canadian Home Builders Association - Central Interior: Milestone Achievement Award

- **Regional Cariboo Skills Competition** was held Friday, March 4. Secondary and post secondary students competed in several categories. Gold and silver medalists qualify for the provincial skills competition in Abbotsford, April 20.

  - **Automotive Service Technician (Secondary)**
    Dylan Martyn Norkam - TRU Gold
    James Kropp Norka - TRU Silver
    Quinn Pooley Merritt - TRU Bronze
  - **Cabinet Making (Secondary)**
    Hayden Schmidt Corelieiu - TRU Gold
    Colton Deneef SKS - TRU Gold
  - **Culinary Arts (Secondary)**
    Amber Smith Westsyde - TRU Gold
    Cole Burgess Norkam - TRU Gold
  - **Electrical (Wiring) Post Secondary**
    Allison Gruber - TRU Gold
    Kevin Aeichele - TRU Silver
    Jason Bijl - TRU Bronze
  - **Electrical (Wiring) Secondary**
    Coleton Deneef SKS - TRU Gold
    Welding C Secondary
    Josh Graham SKS - TRU Bronze
Upcoming Events:

▶ 6th Annual Undergraduate Conference: Celebrating the diversity of undergraduate innovation and research on April 1 and 2. Friday’s events on Student Street featured poster presentations of research projects by students in a variety of disciplines, including Science, Arts, Tourism and Economics, as well as a Visual Arts Exhibition in the Art Gallery and Theatre selections from our Performing Arts students. The talents of TRU’s Culinary Arts students will be featured at a reception and dessert buffet on Friday evening. For more info: tru.ca/conference

▶ Friday, April 8, 2011 TRU Distinguished Alumni Awards dinner features a keynote address by Chancellor Designate, the Hon. Wally Oppal, Q.C. “Access to Justice in Canada: Myth or Reality?” and how education makes a difference. For more information on this event presented by Fulton and Co. contact advancementevents@tru.ca or call 250.828.5264.

▶ Tuesday, April 19, 2pm TRU Distinguished Service and Staff Awards in the Rotunda of the CAC.


▶ Friday, May 13, The 18th Annual Alumni Association Golf Tournament at the Pineridge Golf Course $75.00 per person (Texas Scramble), 18 holes of golf, dinner, prizes, silent auction, www.trualumni.ca or call 250.828.5264

▶ Thursday, April 7, 7 to 8:30pm the faculty at TRU Williams Lake are challenging the community to solve a murder mystery at a CSI Murder Mystery Night. Expect an amazing story-line set in mid 1800s Williams Lake. The clues will be derived from the various disciplines of anthropology, psychology, chemistry, etc.