
TUARP “Times”

Trent University Association of Retired Persons
<http://www.trentu.ca/org/tuarp/>

Newsletter #28, October 2015

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Co-Chairs: Gordon Johnston 2014-16, Wayne Holtz 2013-2015

Editorial

The past year’s celebrations of the university’s 50th Anniversary were immensely enriched and advanced by the volunteer contributions of many retired colleagues. They delivered both strategic and practical advice and effort as well as shining a light on the diverse perspectives of their experiences of living and working through the making and blossoming of Trent. The impact of the careers we had continues to ripple through the university of today.

Many of our colleagues have been honoured in specific and physical ways. Beginning with this edition of TUARP Times, I plan to examine those colleagues and the honour that endures after their active service to Trent. **Names of Honour** follows.

Names of Honour

I am fighting my way through a small stand of cedar trees that borders the parking lot at the Bata Library loop. Just why I am ducking errant cedar boughs and tripping over undergrowth, wondering if a passerby

will report a stranger in the bushes to Security?

I am looking for a plaque erected by the Ontario Heritage Foundation, which according to lore, was placed among the trees on the request of Founding President Tom Symons. The plaque commemorates the founding of the university and broke with protocol by including the name of a living person, THB Symons. Professor Symons directed the physical resources staff to place it where, over time, it would be obscured by the growing trees.

I am just about to abandon my search when I find a cement base and a metal post, but no plaque. The always helpful Jodi Aoki in Archives suggest I call Dr. Michael Eamon, Principal of Traill College for advice as he oversaw a significant plaques review and renewal project as part of the 50th anniversary endeavours. Dr. Eamon confirms that I have found the plaque’s former site and that I have not imagined this episode in Trent’s history. He directs me to an Ontario Heritage plaque website where I find a photo of the plaque. Here’s what it says:

“Trent University-In 1957 public-spirited residents of Peterborough formed a Citizens’

Committee to examine the possibility of creating a university to serve the Trent Valley. By letters patent of August 9, 1960, this committee became Trent Colleges Limited and in the following year a group of academic advisors, under the chairmanship of THB Symons, organized the university's Academic Planning committee. A provincial charter of 1963 established Trent as a degree-granting university which admitted its first students in September, 1964. That year the renovation of Rubidge Hall and the creation of Robinson and Traill Colleges gave Trent a downtown campus. The opening of Champlain College (1967) and Lady Eaton College (1968) marked the beginning of the main campus. The plaque is being refreshed and will be moved to a more prominent location on campus.

I welcome suggestions for future subjects of this Names of Honour column.

Greetings from Co-Chair Gordon Johnston

Here is a brief report on recent events and developments.

Having been unable to attend our last meeting, President Groarke invited the members of TUARP to a morning tea at Alumni House on July 16. The event was well attended and much appreciated by those who did. The President took questions for more than an hour on a wide range of subjects, from building plans to enrolments to Durham to colleges to pensions, and was candid and clear in his responses.

Our relation to Alumni Affairs continues to be expanded and refined. Alumni Affairs will be able to assist us with email distribution. To that end we are updating our list of members, based on the lists which have been maintained faithfully by Gillian

Stamp for years. If you would like some change in your contact information, for example, if you are usually informed of meetings by telephone and would rather receive notices by email, or if you would prefer to be removed from our lists, please let us know.

The first column for and about retired persons in Trent Magazine (to be called 'The Pasture' for obvious reasons) will appear in the next issue, to be published shortly. We will make use of it to announce new retirements (only with the permission of those involved, of course) plus any news of interest about and for the retired members of the university community. If you have any news items or announcements you would like to see published in Trent Magazine, please forward them to gjohnston@trentu.ca.

The TUARP page now appears on the myCommunity/alumni site (which is being redesigned):

<https://mycommunity.trentu.ca/alumni/tuarp>

If anyone is interested in being the conduit for documents and announcements, providing the information to the Alumni Affairs office, please say so to one of the co-chairs. When the page is up and running, we will be able to post minutes of meetings there, plus the TUARP Times, plus announcements and reports from CURAC, plus any other documents of possible interest to members.

Finally, we are very pleased to report that Eunice Lund-Lucas has kindly agreed to serve as Secretary for TUARP.

Wishing everyone well as summer fades into fall.

Greetings from Co-Chair Wayne Holtz

Warm wishes to all. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the next TUARP meeting on October 28. These meetings are always informative and interesting.

General Meeting Wednesday October 28, 2015 AJM Smith Room Bata Library, Symons Campus-10 am to 12 pm Special Guest: Professor Alan Brunger

CHAMPLAIN IN PETERBOROUGH: The French legacy in local region

Samuel de Champlain's visit, in 1615, to southern Ontario is significant in terms of his relations with the First Nations of the region and his contributions to the early mapping of Canada.

During 1615-16, Huron and Algonquin first nations persuaded Champlain and some French musketeers to accompany a punitive raid on the Iroquois of northern New York state. This expedition was to start in Huronia, and traveled along a well-used First Nations route, through the Kawartha Lakes and down the Trent River to the eastern end of Lake Ontario. This is more or less the route of today's Parks Canada's Trent Severn Waterway.

After reaching Lake Ontario, the expedition continued around its eastern end to Lake Onondaga, NY and attacked a well-fortified Iroquois town, using a mixture of Huron and European tactics. They were repulsed. Champlain was wounded and was carried back by his allies. The site of his resting place during the return is known in the literature as "Champlain's Rest". The actual

location is much debated. While convalescing, Champlain added to our record of the Peterborough region as it was in the 17th century.

Europeans did not settle the Peterborough area for 200 years after Champlain's visits. French Canadians trickled in and notably during the 19th century, the southern fringe of Peterborough was known as "French town". In addition to the French immersion elementary and high schools, a regional francophone population sustains an école élémentaire française (Ecole Monseigneur-Jamot). Peterborough, along with other Ontario communities touched by Samuel de Champlain, will be celebrating important 400th anniversaries in 2015. The Trent Valley Archives has recently published a book *Finding Champlain's Dream*, compiling articles on the aforementioned themes.

INTER-UNIVERSITY TRANSIT SYSTEM (IUTS)

The Vincent Greene Philatelic Research Foundation and the Philatelic Specialists Society have established a Study Group to research and document the history and use of postal labels and handstamps of the private IUTS courier system since its inception in September, 1967.

We need data about the periods of use of various postal labels and handstamps, used on items carried by the courier system between university and government libraries in Ontario and elsewhere. Dated covers and enclosures can help us establish details of the use of these labels and markings. We wish to see, purchase or examine copies of such materials. If you have any relevant items, please contact the Foundation at: library@greenefoundation.ca subject: IUTS or Chair Study Group at barry@millbar.com

The most recent edition of Trent Magazine is available at www.trentu.ca/alumni and news and events at Trent is available at www.trentu.ca/newsevents/.

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Membership dues \$10.00 annually, due in October

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Submissions for TUARP “Times” are strongly encouraged. Deadline for submissions for the next edition is March 15, 2016 and may be sent to tonystorey71@gmail.com.

Past issues of TUARP “Times” are posted on the TUARP website: <http://www.trentu.ca/org/tuarp/>

This site is out of date and will be superseded by the site mentioned in Gordon Johnston’s remarks.