FALL 2018 49.3

PUBLISHED BY THE TRENT UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Alison Van Rooy '86

Alumna part of new wave of innovators in policy making

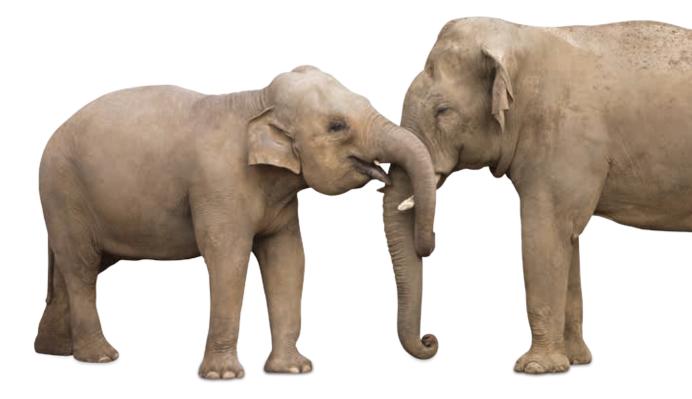
## **Northern Affairs**

Two Alum Tackle Arctic Issues



Distributed in accordance with Canada Post Canadian Publications Mail Sales Product Agreement #40064326.

# We're better, together.



## Comprehensive coverage. Superior value.

Term Life Insurance | Dependent Children Term Life Insurance Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance | Critical Illness Insurance Travel Insurance | Office Overhead Insurance

### **Trent Personal Insurance Program**

For a personalized quotation or to apply online, please visit us at: solutionsinsurance.com/trent 1.800.266.5667





TRENT is published three times a year in June, October and February by the Trent University Alumni Association. Unsigned comments reflect the opinion of the editor only.

Trent University Alumni Association Alumni House, Champlain College Trent University Peterborough, Ontario, K9L 0G2 705.748.1573 or 1.800.267.5774, Fax: 705.748.1785 Email: alumni@trentu.ca

#### trentu.ca/alumni

EDITOR · MANAGING EDITOR Donald Fraser '91 COPY EDITOR Megan Ward DESIGN Beeline Design & Communications CONTRIBUTORS Sarah Cox '85, Craig Davidson '94, Donald Fraser '91 Lee Hays '91, Jeannette Menzies '95, Melissa Moroney, Justin Sutton '09, Bill Templeman, Alison Van Rooy '86, Kathryn Verhulst-Rogers, Kate Weersink EDITORIAL BOARD Marilyn Burns '00, Sebastian Cosgrove '06, Donald Fraser '91, Lee Hays '91, Melissa Moroney, lan Proudfoot '73 PRINTING and BINDING Maracle Press, Oshawa TUAA COUNCIL HONORARY PRESIDENT T.H.B. Symons PRESIDENT Jess Grover '02 VP CAMPUS COMMUNITIES Karen McQuade Smith '06 VP COUNCIL ORGANIZATION Steve Robertson '93 **VP COMMUNICATIONS & MEMBERSHIP** Sebastian Cosgrove '06 VP ENGAGEMENT AND PHILANTHROPY Maile Loweth Reeves '79 COUNCILLORS Wei Lynn Eng '99, Athena Flak '99, Karen Foster '05, James Forrester '14, Rae Gibeault '93, Dorcas Mensah '13, Danen Oberon '07, Herb O'Heron '75 CHAPTER PRESIDENTS Maile Loweth Reeves '79 (York Region) Caleb Smith '93 (Niagara Region) Laura Suchan '84 (Oshawa/Durham Region) Lorraine Bennett '72 (Vancouver) David Wallbridge '96 (Halifax/Dartmouth) Steve Cavan '77 (Saskatoon) Gordon Copp '76 (British Isles) Patrick Lam '86 (Hong Kong) SENATE ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVE Danen Oberon '07 GSA REPRESENTATIVE Danielle Harris '06

> DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI AFFAIRS Lee Hays '91 ALUMNI SERVICES COORDINATOR Sue Robinson

ALUMNI & DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR Julie Ellis

MANAGER OF ALUMNI AFFAIRS & CONVOCATION Joanne Sokolowski



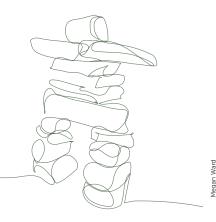




Follow us @trentalumni on Twitter, @trent\_alumni on Instagram, The Trent University Alumni Association page on Facebook, and The Official Trent University Alumni Association group on LinkedIN.

On the Cover: Alison Van Rooy '86 Photo: Samantha Moss, Mossworks

- 4 | Editorial
- 5 | President's Message
- 6 | What's New at Trent
- 8 | Spotlight on Research
- 10 | Alumni Survey
- 11 | Bata Library Renovation
- 12 | Canada's Arctic Today
- 16 | Science & Indigenous Knowledge in Canada's Arctic
- 23 | Book Excerpt: Craig Davidson '94
- 26 | Innovation & Policymaking
- 29 | New Master of Management Degree
- 30 | Professors Emeriti Help Students Gain Global Perspectives
- 32 | Critical Aging Studies Comes of Age
- 34 | Events
- 36 | Looking Back



# THE KIDS ARE ALRIGHT

Generations of Trent Alumni

#### EDITOR'S NOTES

y three-year-old daughter, Clara, loves to visit me at my Trent University office. I'd like to think that it's because she's curious about what I do during the lengthy hours I'm away from home. Or maybe that it's because she misses me.

But I know better.

"Let's go see Daddy's work!" she'll exclaim to my wife, **Krista Campbell '08**. Note that it's never: "Let's go see Daddy!"

I'm an afterthought, you see. And while I still get hugs when she arrives at Alumni House—while she's still excited to see me—it's Symons Campus that really excites her.

Trent, for Clara, is the dramatic "castle" of Champlain College: turrets and tunnels and what seem like mazes to her burgeoning imagination. It's the "wilderness" of the nature areas: forests, waterways, unlimited places to ramble. It's boat races on the Otonabee and really good soup at the Seasoned Spoon. It's probably the best place she's ever been to people-watch.

When she grows up, she tells me, she's going to go to Trent. And this gladdens my heart.

Not just because, as the child of an employee, her tuition is waived (though I'll gladly take that rare financial break). No; it's because, like Clara, I still find Trent a really cool place to be. Champlain, and Alumni House in particular, still impresses me daily. Familiarity does not dull appreciation in this case. In fact, much of the architecture at Trent engages me and keeps my strolls across campus fresh and exciting.

And, as to not slight my own college, I must point out that the old houses of Traill remain a home away from home to me—my own personal step back in time.

Like Clara, I love the fact that the academic buildings are mostly surrounded by greenspace. I hike here regularly with my family and go for quiet trail runs over lunch. I often brag about the fact that I've seen deer, foxes, and herons from my office window.

While my three-year-old prefers to observe the buzz of people at Trent, I take joy in the fact that, wherever I go on campus, I find myself immersed in conversation—usually of the academic and intellectually stimulating variety. And while the conversation can range anywhere from politics to biomaterials, or from literature to water quality—really, anywhere on the academic spectrum—it's almost always progressive. It's almost always about making change for the better.

Trent remains an incredibly inspiring place for me. And I'm pretty sure I'll feel that way forever.

I'm hardly alone in this. Alumni parents who still spend time at the University—or with people they know from the Trent community—speak to how it continues to impact their lives in many positive ways. So much so that they either hope that their kids will go to Trent when the time comes, or already have children in attendance here.

September is emblematic of Trent's multi-generational nature. Each year we see familiar faces pulling up to campus with teenagers in tow, ready to both drop off their kids and to re-live their own very first Trent moments. New students (and their parents) are always wide-eyed in amazement when they get their first look at the Trent campus, but nothing can compare to the excitement on alumni-parent faces as they trundle luggage off to residences, pointing out the sights to their (usually embarrassed) children.

It's September as I write this. There's a hum in the air as the school comes back to life for the new academic year. I've already heard from three proud alumni about what their kids will be taking here.

Oh, and Clara just popped by with her mother for lunch. It was peanut butter. And grape jelly.

It's been a day shared with people being excited about their time at Trent. And it's been a joy to have been a part of it all.

Donald Fraser '91

donaldgfraser@trentu.ca

Don't forget to follow us

- 💟 @TrentAlumni
- 💿 @Trent\_Alumni
- Trent University Alumni Association page
- in The Official Trent University Alumni Association



# **A COLLEGE RENAISSANCE AT TRENT**

"The need for connection and community is primal, as fundamental as the need for air, water, and food." – Dean Ornish

hat makes a campus a community? What turns a university experience into something transformative? What makes a university education such a memorable time of life?

One might answer these questions in many ways. I see one answer every time I go to an alumni gathering. When two Trent alumni meet for the first time, one of the questions they ask is usually the same: "Which college did you belong to?"

Trent was designed as a collegiate university. The way that colleges contribute to student success and well-being is part of our personality.

As an alum, you probably know the integral role that colleges have played in the Trent experience. As histories of Trent relate, colleges have been an essential—and sometimes controversial—part of Trent. Over the course of Trent's history, our existing colleges have evolved and different ways of managing them have been tried and implemented.

In 2014, Trent's Board of Governors instituted changes to colleges that tied to Student Services and to the lives of students in this way. This was a move away from the traditional model, which was characterized by an academic head (originally called a "master," "principal," or "head") who was a professor charged with the running of an academic community which provided students with an affiliation with a close-knit community smaller than the whole university.

The Board supported the changes, but there was an extensive discussion of them and many Board members favoured the traditional model of colleges. With that in mind, the Board asked that a review of the colleges take place three years later. In the meantime, in the wake of the Tindale Report, Traill College began to re-establish itself as a college more like Trent's first colleges (with a return of undergraduate students to Traill residences and the successful establishment of a Traill College endowment under the stewardship of Principal Michael Eamon).

The Board-mandated review of colleges took place last year. The chair of the Review was Rosalind Morrow, a former Board member. The other members of the review committee were **Dr. Tom Miller '82**, a long-serving member of the Board of Governors; Nona Robinson, Trent's VP of Students; and Brenda Blackburn, the executive director of the President's Office. They held extensive stakeholder meetings, which involved alumni, students, faculty, and staff. Seven hundred people responded to the survey they circulated.

The review embraced the importance of colleges as smaller communities within the broader university, recommending a concerted effort to (i) make the colleges relevant to academic life at Trent; and (ii) allow them to be distinct in a way that allowed them to benefit from a unique identity. You can read the full review at **trentu.ca/president/initiatives**.

In support of these goals, Trent is implementing changes to colleges, which will in some ways recreate key features of the original college system. Most importantly, each college will be led by a principal with academic credentials who teaches at Trent. The newly appointed principals are: Melanie Buddle (Gzowski); Tina Fridgen '95 (Champlain), Christine Freeman-Roth (Lady Eaton); Stephanie Muehlethaler (Otonabee); Michael Eamon (Traill). They are already successful professors who have embraced the opportunity to lead their colleges in a way that increases faculty participation in college life; enhances the colleges' unique



identities; and promotes philanthropic support in a way that will help build a college budget that is sustainable over the long term.

These are moves designed to emphasize the college tradition at the same time recognizing that, yes, students, faculty and campus life have changed in the last 50-plus years. With that in mind, Student Services will continue to play an important role in our students' lives.

As we look to the future, our Durham GTA campus will consider whether it is time to introduce the college system there as we plan an expansion that will feature a new residence. If the campus does move in that direction, a new college would integrate student residences with academic and administrative space in the spirit of a community of scholars.

If you added your voice to the college review, thank you for participating. Special thanks to Rosalind Morrow for chairing the College Review, and to Tom Miller and Nona Robinson for their diligence in working through all the issues it considered. I believe they have ushered in a new era at Trent, which will be characterized by a college renaissance.

I look forward to the chance to talk to you about this and all the other exciting things that Trent is doing at our annual alumni homecoming at the Head of the Trent in 2018!

60 Grown

Dr. Leo Groarke, Ph.D. President & vice-chancellor

# WHAT'S NEW AT TRENT UNIVERSITY

### Order of Canada Bestowed Upon Trent Professor and Former Chancellor

One of Canada's most revered awards, the Order of Canada, was recently bestowed upon two members of the Trent community—Dr. Peter Dillon, a faculty member in the Trent School of the Environment, and Dr. Roberta Bondar, the ninth chancellor of Trent University.

Professor Dillon, whose research is focused on the biogeochemistry of lakes, was named a member of the Order of Canada for his advancements in the field of limnology, the study of inland waters. Prof. Dillon was the scientific leader on the environmental research and long-term investigations carried out at the Dorset Research Centre in central Ontario for 25 years.

Dr. Bondar was announced as a companion of the Order of Canada. Her new title with the Order of Canada is the highest level and recognizes national pre-eminence or international service or achievement.



Dr. Peter Dillon



Dr. Cathy Bruce, dean of Trent University's School of Education & Dr. Jennifer Leclerc, director of Education for KPRDSB

### A Canadian Public Elementary School First

"This will be the first publicly funded elementary research school in Canada," said Dr. Jackie Muldoon, provost and vice-president of academic at Trent University about a new partnership between Trent and the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board.

Roger Neilson will be a place where educators and their research partners from our School of Education can collaborate on projects of mutual interest," The new groundbreaking research school partnership wills educators and researchers together to learn more about how children and youth learn, and explores best practices for teaching and learning. Teacher education is a key feature of the research school. Through this partnership, Roger Neilson will commit to taking teacher candidates from the Trent School of Education B.Ed. program for teaching placements.

### Gold Rush for Trent Rower on World Stage

After years of committed training and a week of flawless athletic performance, fourth-year Trent University student and Trent Excalibur rower Trevor Jones can now add two-time World Rowing Under-23 Champion to his long list of accolades.

In July, Mr. Jones joined fellow Rowing Canada Aviron NextGen rowers from across the country to represent Canada on the national stage in Poznan, Poland at the World Rowing Under-23 Championships. Establishing himself as a force to be reckoned with, Mr. Jones won all of his qualifying races and retained his world champion title on July 29 in the Men's Single Sculls finals, topping the podium with a time of 06:48.70.



Trevor Jones

Also representing Trent University and Canada was first-year student Grace VandenBroek, who placed fifth overall in the women's quadruple sculls A Finals.

In September Ms. VandenBroek was also nominated nominated by Rowing Canada to represent the nation at the Youth Olympics in Buenos Aires.

### TeachingCity: Where Opportunities for Students Abound

Students will have access to even more hands-on, career building experience working on important community projects through a new community partnership at Trent University Durham GTA. Together with the City of Oshawa, Trent and other academic partners, the TeachingCity initiative will focus on and address urban issues facing Oshawa through innovation, collaboration, applied research, and shared experiential learning opportunities.

"Signing-on as an official TeachingCity partner is important for



Trent and Oshawa. With our rich history in the region, and our plans to expand our Trent Durham GTA campus, we are always looking for opportunities to contribute to the greater community," said Dr. Leo Groarke, president and vice-chancellor of Trent University.

"We look forward to collaborating with our post-secondary partners, and the City of Oshawa to increase opportunities for students to engage with the community they're living and learning in."

VIC NOR

GAN SANGSTER



### Top Book Awards for Two Trent Faculty Members

If you're heading back to the books this fall, we recommend you add a couple of items to your reading list. Two books written by faculty members at Trent that have recently received top literary awards.

Dr. Sylvie Bérard, professor and chair of French and Francophone Studies at Trent, took home Ontario's leading award for literature, the Trillium Book Award, for her collection of poetry, *Oubliez*.

The Clio Prize for the best book published on the North in 2016-2018 by the Canadian Historical Association/Société historique du Canada was awarded to Dr. Joan Sangster for her book, *The Iconic North: Cultural Constructions of Aboriginal Life in Postwar Canada*. Professor Sangster is a Gender and Women's Studies faculty member.



### Trent University Welcomes Record Number of New Graduate Students

With five new professional coursebased graduate programs, and 19 Master and Ph.D. programs in total, Trent University has seen an estimated 42% increase in graduate student enrolment over the last two years, with an increase in registered students from 495 in 2016 to about 700 for 2018.

Contributing to the largest class of graduate students the University has ever seen are a large number of international students. Close to 60% of applications for this fall are from students in more than 31 countries around the world.

"We are excited that these new degrees are resonating with students. All of these degrees include an experiential learning component that integrates valuable real-world experience into the curriculum," explains Dr. Craig Brunetti, dean of Graduate Studies at Trent. "Students are recognizing the value of additional training and credentials, and are choosing to pursue graduate education after completing a baccalaureate degree."

The School of Graduate Studies isn't the only place Trent is seeing growth, Trent University Durham GTA welcomed the largest incoming class to date in the institution's more than 40-year history in the Durham Region this fall.

# SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH

As home to many leading researchers, Trent University has countless stories to tell when it comes to research success. Through our outstanding researchers, exceptional facilities, and prestigious schools of study, Trent is a place where ideas and creativity connect and intersect with industry, non-profits, communities and real-world solutions. Read more about some of the top faculty, student, and alumni researchers who are making an impact.

#### FACULTY RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT When & Where Did Humanity First Impact the Environment? Trent Researcher has the Answer

Exploring societies that existed centuries before our own inspires us to think about restoration, conservation and our relationship with the environment today. That's research that inspires. A team of international researchers including Trent's own Dr. Paul Szpak has found that agricultural activity more than 2,000 years ago in the Bronze Age in Ireland is the tipping point for when humanity first began to cause environmental change.

"People are increasingly aware of the fact that humans are having a profound impact on the planet, but when people think about these impacts, they are usually thinking about global climate change, large-scale species extinctions, and widespread contamination of various ecosystems with pollutants," explains Professor Szpak, Anthropology professor and Canada research chair in Environmental Archaeology. "What we are seeing more and more is that the environments that we assumed were 'pristine' when the Industrial Revolution kicked off had already been impacted by humans in major ways. One of the most important reasons for this is the tendency of Western societies like ours to view culture (and humans) as separate from nature, rather than a part of it."



Photo courtesy of Dr. Paul Szpak, Anthropology professor & Canada research chair in Environmental Archaeology



Willow Denis is committed to helping new farmers thrive. Currently in her first year of the master's program in Sustainability Studies at Trent, Ms. Denis is proposing a unique start-up business for the Peterborough area—a farm incubator. The proposed incubator involves a piece of farmable land subdivided into small spaces leased to new farmers at below market prices to provide space to enact their business plan with reduced risk, while also providing equipment sharing and mentorship in collaboration with existing farmers. All this is focused on the creation of opportunities to help aspiring farmers acquire the place-based knowledge they need to get into and succeed in local agriculture.

"Formal education in sustainable agriculture and food systems provides the theoretical knowledge base, but cannot fully expose students to the complex ecological, social and economic aspects of life on a farm," she says. "A farm incubator in Peterborough, as a collaborative project between Trent and the agricultural community, will act as a means of creating space for new farmers."

# **RESEARCH EXCELLENCE** THRIVING AT TRENT



#### ALUMNI RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT Plant Hormones in Mammals: A Trent Discovery

What makes plants branch, flower, and grow seeds? Plant hormones. And the impact of these hormones extends far beyond the realm of botany. From within a lab at Trent, studies of plant hormones and chemistry have unearthed a new discovery that could play a key role in fighting cancer.

Under the supervision of Trent's Dr. Neil Emery and Dr. Craig Brunetti, and with the help of Adam Noble, CEO and founder of Noblegen, **Mark Seegobin '10**, a Trent alumnus and a current Ph.D. student in the Environmental and Life Sciences program, found that a full plant hormone pathway, also known as cytokinins (CKs), exists in dogs. Although these CKs are hormones commonly studied in plants and play a significant role in all stages of growth, in mammals only a single CK had previously been found—until this new research discovered six more.

"Understanding the hormones' role in mammals might unlock their potential as therapeutic agents and lead to new discoveries in mammalian biology," Mr. Seegobin says. He plans to work with the team to study whether CKs could act as potential treatments for viral infections, neurodegenerative diseases and cancer.



Bold research making a difference in the world. That's the Trent University way. Read on for just a few recent highlights that showcase the ways in which Trent continues to challenge the way we think.



#### Meet Trent's Newest Research Chair

"Canadian to Watch" Dr. Whitney Lackenbauer has joined Trent's distinguished School for the Study of Canada after receiving \$1.4 million in federal funding as a new Tier I Canada research chair. His research mission? As one of Canada's foremost experts on Arctic history and contemporary Northern policy, Professor Lackenbauer will strive to improve academic, policy and public dialogue related to Canada's North, involving students along the way.

#### \$250,000 in SSHRC Funding Supports Trent Researchers

The innovative research of three Trent University researchers in the Departments of Anthropology and History received a significant boost recently thanks to \$250,000 in new funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC).

Dr. Gyles lannone and Dr. Anne Meneley of Trent's Anthropology Department will use the funding to advance their research projects examining the socio-ecological history of Bagan, Myanmar, and societal impacts created by walking with digital self-tracking devices. In the History Department, the national funding will assist Dr. Katrina Keefer in developing a searchable database to assist with the identification of African pre-slavery individuals, societies and families.

Follow @TrentUniversity #TrentUResearch on Twitter to read more research highlights and stories, and share your own #TrentU research stories. hank you to the 2,600 alumni who completed the 2018 Trent Alumni Survey in March. The survey examined alumni relationships with Trent, including attitudes about and perceptions toward the institution. We are pleased to share some of the high-level survey results with you below.

Compared to 48 other international universities, Trent scored above average for the percentage of alumni engaged with the University and with their weighted engagement score. The benchmark scores are based upon universities participating in past research. Trent's peer group is based upon those institutions deemed most similar to Trent in Maclean's University Rankings, including: Acadia, Bishop's, Laurentian, Mount Saint Vincent, Nipissing, Saint Mary's, St. Francis Xavier and University of Prince Edward Island. Engagement can include such activities as reading TRENT Magazine, attending events, donating, volunteering, or promoting the university to future students.

We know Trent alumni are passionate about keeping connected with each other and the University, and this shows in the survey results.

Alumni also scored Trent above average in: Personal Experience, Awareness and Pride, Communications, Activities and Programs and Donor Awareness; and scored about average for Volunteerism and Donor Action.

#### What did we learn?

To keep alumni connected to the University, you told us we should focus on: ways to bring alumni back to Trent, mentoring and career support for students and alumni, providing services and group discounts, creating events with an intellectually stimulating component, connecting alumni with each other, and promoting Trent's achievements and priorities.

- Alumni feel Trent is currently very effective at promoting the University's achievements and priorities, celebrating and recognizing alumni achievements, fundraising, and providing intellectually stimulating articles.
- The benefits and services alumni are most interested in include: library access, an alumni travel program, and alumni branded merchandise.
- There is a deep interest in career services, both from alumni who are seeking assistance and those able to help others with professional development and job searches.
- Alumni are most interested in providing charitable support in the following areas: student financial assistance, their own program of study, academic scholarships, and heritage preservation and restoration.

- Alumni opinion of Trent leadership is very strong—in fact, the strongest of any other institution surveyed.
- Trent alumni are some of the most likely to wear Trent merchandise to show their school spirit.
- Alumni are most interested in hearing from Trent about: general University news, news about their area of study, information about teaching and research, and invitations to events.
- Some of the factors that keep alumni from participating in Trent alumni events include a lack of time, distance, and not being aware of events.
- > *TRENT Magazine* and emails from Trent remain the most popular sources of information about the University.

The analysis continues, and will help guide our future strategic initiatives to meet your needs and interests.

The full survey report is available on the Alumni website at mycommunity.trentu.ca/alumni/ publications

THANK YOU AGAIN TO ALL WHO PATETICIPATED!

Lee Hays '91 Director of Alumni Affairs

Congratulations to the following alumni who were the lucky winners in our survey draw:

Grand Prize: \$3,000 travel voucher from Merit Travel Melissa Hennig '12

#### Trent Alumni hoodies: Krista Whyte '13 Melissa Innes '95 Nancy Loucks '90 Derrick Farnham '83 Pat Roy '76

Bronte Germain '10 Leanne Cecil '93 Molly MacDermaid '11 Regina Carlow '13 Fiona Smith '05

# BATA TRANSFORMATION UPDATE

# Scheduling details and a sneak peek at features and progress through our photo gallery

veryone is eager to see the results of the Bata Library transformation, which has been underway over the past year, and to hear an update on progress to date. Nearing completion, they are looking at a phased-in return to the Library this fall.

Among the completed highlights are a return to the gorgeous exposed wood staircases, a brand new green wall on the main floor, restoration of the wooden trellises, and plenty of new student study and meeting spaces.

In the weeks leading up to the opening, the full suite of Library services and resources will continue to be available to all students, faculty, and alumni as the academic year begins. Library staff will be available to assist new and returning students. As you are reading this message, books are being reloaded back onto the shelves at Bata. Get a glimpse into construction progress over the past year during this \$18 million renovation by visiting the Bata webpage: **trentu.ca/ batatransformation/photos** 

#### In other Library news:

- Trent University is working with the Internet Archive to digitize and preserve 250,000 books from the Thomas J. Bata Library through the Open Libraries project.
- University Office of Advancement reports the successful completion of the \$2 million fundraising campaign for the Bata Library, and has since raised a further \$145,000 for a Bata Library Furniture fund to restore, refurbish and return some of the precious original furniture.
- During convocation, Alumni Affairs hosted a reunion for the Classes of 1964 and 1965 and several of Trent's founders attended, including Professor Tom Symons, founding president of Trent University. Among the special

guests were Paul Merrick, the lead architect who worked with master architect Ron Thom on Bata Library and Molly Thom, widow of the late Ron Thom. Mr. Merrick said the work was "dazzling" and expected the new library to be even more spectacular than when it originally opened.



The new living wall is in place and ready to be planted.

# CANADA'S ARCTIC TODAY

Trent Magazine chats with Sarah Cox '85 (Political Science/Public Policy/Indigenous Studies)

#### **BILL TEMPLEMAN**

he challenges facing the residents of Canada's Arctic tend to escape our notice in the information-saturated south. We may see a news item online about a dramatic search and rescue, or read a post about the impact of climate change on Northern hunters, but the kaleidoscope of the 24-hour news cycle quickly scrambles our impressions, and our moment of insight is soon lost. If we could get beyond the tweets and the video clips, what would Northerners tell us? What is actually happening in the Arctic right now? What are the top priority issues for the people who live there? How are we, as a country, dealing with these challenges? Are we seeing any successes? And what can we learn from our efforts that might help Northerners as we move into the future? We have to not only

keep wrestling with what to do, but overcome our biases about how we work with Northerners. In the past, governments have had a tendency to develop solutions to Northern problems here in the southern parts of the country, then ship those Southern solutions to the North, only to scratch our heads in puzzlement when the solutions don't work as planned.

TRENT Magazine reached out to Trent alumnus **Sarah Cox '85**, who is the director, Circumpolar Affairs Directorate of the Department of Intergovernmental and Northern Affairs and Internal Trade in the federal government, as well as the head of the Canadian Delegation for Sustainable Development Working Group of the Arctic Council. We hoped to draw on Sarah's extensive experience in project collaboration with Northerners to find out what all Canadians can do to help Northerners discover their way forward in very uncertain times. Where do we all stand right now? As a nation, how are we doing in our stewardship of the Arctic?

**TRENT MAGAZINE (TM):** 64% of Canadians live within 100 km of the US border—and the vast majority of Canadians live closer to the United States than the Arctic. While we consider ourselves a northern nation, most Canadians don't have a firm grasp of life up North or the issues that Northern Canada is currently facing. Could you give us snapshot of the North as you know it?

**SARAH COX (SC):** It is important to understand that while I have worked on Northern issues for eight years, worked in partnership with Northerners and I have travelled up there, I am not All Canadians need to get involved in this reconciliation dialogue with the Inuit and First Nations of the Arctic.

a Northerner. First of all, there is the sheer vastness of the place. There are about 200,000 people in the Arctic, yet it represents 40% of Canada's landmass. There are four Inuit regions in Canada's Arctic. While everyone has heard of Nunavut, there is also Inuvialuit (the northwestern part of the Northwest Territories), Nunatsiavut (Northern Labrador), and Nunavik (Northern Quebec). All four are settled land claims, which is pretty progressive.

The cultural reality of the Inuit is that they lived in seasonal camps until the 1960s, which means there are a lot of middle-aged people who grew up in these camps, not in communities with houses and streets as we know them in the South. Of the 53 permanent communities, most of them are flyin only. There is no road access. The Inuit travel between settlements on snowmobiles: these trips can take two days or more. The cost of living is 80% higher than in the South. There is a very short ocean shipping season. Inuktitut is the strongest Indigenous language in the country; this is important because we know that language is a major anchor for culture. The median age of the Inuit is 18 years younger than the Canadian median age, so there is a burgeoning youth population.

The North is so diverse in terms of landscape, language, and people. There are a lot of different dialects. The Northwest Territories is treed, whereas Nunavut is above the treeline; these are very different landscapes. One of the things that strikes you is when you fly into Nunavut, you are flying over ice for a very long time. The remoteness of the Arctic is truly dramatic. That's my snapshot of the North; it's very beautiful in a very unique way. While you might call it rugged, in the summer you can walk across the tundra and fill your belly on blueberries. I am completely enamoured of the North, having travelled up there quite a few times.

**TM:** What are some of the current hotbutton Arctic issues for the people who live there?

**SC:** Obviously a no-brainer is climate change; we all know that the Arctic is an early indicator of climate change. We all know about the melting sea ice. Hopefully, every Canadian knows that the Arctic is facing serious challenges because of climate change.

Reconciliation is another top issue. While reconciliation is a big issue for the federal government, this reconciliation must go far deeper than government policy statements; all Canadians need to get involved in this reconciliation dialogue with the Inuit and First Nations of the Arctic.

Mental wellness and suicide prevention are huge issues. Suicide rates are very high in the Arctic, approximately 12 times the rate in Southern Canada. Our minister has described suicide in the North as an epidemic. Everyone in the Arctic knows someone who has committed suicide. From my perspective, one of the challenges is to discover how Southerners can collaborate with Northerners to support mental wellness. What works, what doesn't work and how do we know? This is something that will take generations. There is likely nothing more important than this in terms of collaboration. There are so many issues driving this suicide rate, such as colonization, relocation of Inuit families in the '50s. and the impact of the residential schools.





With the bulk of communities not being accessed by roads, and accessed either by plane or during a short ocean shipping season, the cost of living is 80% higher than in the South.

Housing is a huge issue for sure. There is overcrowding, which contributes to a lack of mental wellness, an inability to do homework and poor health. One person catches a cold and the whole house gets sick.

Other issues include connectivity, better infrastructure, and the fact that the whole North depends on diesel. This technology needs to be replaced. There is a lot of interesting planning going on with renewable energy.

Another issue is education outcomes for high school graduates. The curriculum that is being used needs to be looked at. The government of Nunavut has developed some very good curriculum that is more appropriate for the North.

There is also a steadily growing international interest in the Arctic. How we manage this interest is a discovery process. How do we manage that interest in a way that is beneficial to Northerners? A lot of states that you would never think might be interested are getting involved: China, Singapore, the Netherlands, Germany; they are not Arctic states but they're very interested in Arctic research. Some of this interest is related to resource extraction, but not all. There is research interest in traditional ways of life and in pure scientific research. There is also research interest in shipping routes.

**TM:** How, as a country, are we dealing with these hot-button issues?

**SC:** That's a huge question! There are postgraduate programs on this topic and books have been written, hundreds of books. There are so many government departments that are doing innovative work in collaboration with Northerners. The ministries of the environment, fisheries and oceans, natural resources, emergency preparedness, and intergovernmental affairs, plus others, have extensive programs in the North.

The development of a new Arctic and Northern Policy Framework in partnership with territories, provinces and Indigenous governments helps to provide a useful context. This policy framework is precedent-setting, in part because it is the product of codevelopment.

Another concern is that Canadians really don't have access to the North. It is so wildly expensive to get there. If you are faced with a choice between vacationing in Costa Rica, Europe or the Canadian Arctic, the Arctic will not win very often. But it would be great if more Canadians



could get up to experience the Arctic. Canadians have to stop thinking of the Arctic as an uncharted frontier. The Inuit have lived up there for thousands of years. They know the landscape, the environment and the culture extremely well.

TM: What is working well right now?

SC: I can't speak to the work of all the other departments of the government. The amount of detail would be huge. But I can speak to the work of the Arctic Council. The Council is an intergovernmental body that promotes the environmental, social and economic sides of sustainable development in the Arctic. One of the keys to success of the Arctic Council is that it is a consensusbased organization. A second success factor is the fact that the Council has six Indigenous organizations from across the global Arctic as permanent members, so deliberations are always grounded in the lived reality of the people for whom all projects are intended to serve. A third success factor is the practice of integrating local knowledge and experience into all decision making. The Arctic Council is not about Southerners telling Northerners, "This is what you have to do...." The Council is all about generating Northern solutions for Northerners, not Southern solutions for Northerners.

Canada plays a vital role on the Arctic Council, a role for which all Canadians, regardless of where they live, should be proud. If Canada was not at this table, we would be really missed.

One of the Council's six working groups focuses on sustainable development in terms of living conditions and how to improve the lives of Arctic residents. This group, the Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG), is evolving



OTTAWA, 2014: Inuit youth in sealskin garb hold a fashion show on Parliament Hill to protest against the European Union ban on imported seal products.

from doing a lot of best-practice work and research to designing and running projects that actually make a difference for Northerners living in their communities. One of my key functions is to serve as delegation head for the SDWG. My role is to work with the eight member states and six circumpolar Indigenous organizations to improve the lives of Northerners. We deal with the social sciences, not the natural sciences.

One of SDWG's current projects is the Arctic Renewable Energy Network Academy (ARENA). Every community in Canada's Arctic is dependent on diesel fuel for heat and electricity. One of the goals of ARENA is to foster the development of renewable-energy-literate community members. These advocates can go back to their communities, assess their local situations and determine which alternative energy solution might be best. These graduates of ARENA have the tools to get a local project set up and find out who they have to partner with in order to get renewable energy into their communities.

What is happening now that is very encouraging is that there is a growing awareness that many projects have a long time-cycle. Particularly in areas like mental health, the project cycle needs to be long, maybe ten years or more. Another exciting trend is that the six member circumpolar Indigenous groups are beginning to put their own project concepts forward. This is fantastic because we can now follow their lead.

We also have strong relationships with a number of academics. These relationships open up the possibility of new project ideas and the sharing of successes across all the groups. Another successful SDWG project is a suicide prevention program focused on developing a digital resource of Inuit youth experiences with suicide. This project, which is run by youths across the Canadian Arctic, takes full advantage of the emergence of a talented pool of local filmmakers and videographers. The output of this program provides youth with a powerful, digitalized resource, created by people their own age, in their own language, and of their own culture. We are using the power of networks or clusters to build sustainable change. For example, food security is a huge issue across the Arctic. There is a shortage of food that is nutritious and affordable. So we are developing networks of people who are working on food issues and coming up with ideas and solutions they can share using the traditional foods.

TM: What more do we need to do?

**SC:** Another huge question! We need to collaborate more and enter into equal partnerships with Arctic residents. Above all else, we need to

listen. Gone are the days where "made in Ottawa" solutions are shipped north for implementation without extensive input from those for whom these solutions have been designed. We need to learn more about the Arctic, and if possible, go up there.

The Arctic Council and the SDWG need to do a more thorough job of communicating with Northerners and with the rest of Canada about the challenges and successes that are coming out these efforts. Southerners and others who are working with Arctic residents need to remember to always respect local experience and to value local knowledge. The Arctic needs Southerners to be ambassadors for them.

Another positive development to keep track of is the growth of programs at universities like Trent that concentrate on the Arctic. These university programs lead to growth in career options for working on the full range of issues in the Arctic. Grads shouldn't eliminate the possibility of working on northern Arctic issues. It is so engaging.

The North is really a microcosm of government. Every portfolio you can think of—health, housing, education, employment, social services, economic development, resource management, environmental protection—they are all here. Whatever your interests are, you could find a way to work on them in the North.

# SCIENCE & INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE IN CANADA'S ARCTIC



#### JEANNETTE MENZIES '95 (M.A. Canadian Studies)

Polar Knowledge Canada (POLAR) is a federal agency that was established in 2015 to advance knowledge of the Canadian Arctic and strengthen Canadian leadership in polar science and technology. Its unique role is to advance our collective understanding of polar environments by mobilizing current knowledge to address the gaps and concerns of Northern communities. Alumna Jeannette Menzies is director of Knowledge Management and Engagement at POLAR and leads a team (based primarily in Cambridge Bay and Ottawa) that strengthens and coordinates partnerships, helps ensure that research results inform policies and programs, and supports the next generation of Northern researchers. She has contributed this report on the work and importance of the agency and on arctic issues.

POLAR consists of:

- a pan-northern science and technology program, which conducts and supports science and technology research and monitoring across Canada's North;
- the world-class Canadian High Arctic Research Station (CHARS) campus in Cambridge Bay, Nunavut, scheduled to officially open in 2018; and
- a knowledge management, engagement, and coordination function to support polar research.

Our headquarters is located in Cambridge Bay, Nunavut at the CHARS campus, where approximately 20 of our personnel are based.

#### **First Impressions of the North**

During my first visit to Cambridge Bay in February 2015, I was immediately struck by the discomfort of -53° Celsius and the intensity of the wind when there are no trees to shield you. I was also intrigued by some uniquely Northern practices. These include a daily lunch bell that signals to EVERYONE in the community of 1,700 people that it is time to go home for lunch; a nightly siren that goes off at 10 p.m. to remind young people to go home; and a deeply instilled "sock culture," that sees socks worn without shoes in all places of work, always.

The cost of groceries is also striking: \$24.99 for four litres of Sunny D juice and \$7.49 for a head of notso-crisp lettuce. With food coming in by air or sealift, prices are high and options can be sparse. That said, the North offers culinary delights not



found in the rest of Canada—local delicacies such as Arctic char candy, Arctic char chowder, and the most delightful bannock I have ever tasted.

# The Canadian High Arctic Research Station (CHARS) Campus

Cambridge Bay, Nunavut, is a fly-in community of approximately 1,700 people and the administrative centre of the Kitikmeot region. The specific site of the facility was selected for several reasons, including the potential for community integration in activities. It is near a range of largely undisturbed tundra, wetland and freshwater ecosystems, which offer significant potential for scientific monitoring and research demonstration projects.

Construction began in 2014 as very much a shared process. Parties involved in the project have worked hard to ensure that Indigenous Knowledge (IK) is central to all activities. This includes everything from ensuring that programs and partnerships support science that addresses local concerns, to hiring qualified Indigenous staff and incorporating Indigenous Knowledge into the art and design of the station.

The CHARS campus consists of a Main Research Building, a Field and Maintenance Building, and triplex accommodation units that can house up to 48 visiting researchers. The research campus will provide a broad range of services, including a technology development centre, mechanical and electrical workshops, a Knowledge Sharing Centre, and advanced laboratories. The CHARS campus will have office and laboratory space to host visitors. POLAR staff can provide general logistical support as well as equipment for scientists going into the field and working in the research labs.

POLAR operates the CHARS campus year-round, giving researchers a permanent place to conduct their work and foster ongoing connections to Indigenous partners, communities, and other Arctic collaborators.

The main building includes large spaces accessible to the public, such as the Knowledge Sharing Centre. Sitting in the heart of the station and bathed in natural light, this area is intended to bridge different forms of knowledge; it encourages meetings between Inuit and scientists, as well as community members, young and old, to discuss ideas of local, regional and global significance.

Outside the building stands an iconic structure, reminiscent of a set

of organ pipes, erected in the shape of a maple leaf. From above, LED lights shine through—a reminder that one is in Canada's Arctic territory.

#### Benefiting from Indigenous Knowledge

The research facility is uniquely situated within a community rich in information on how Arctic ecosystems are changing, and perspectives on how these changes impact both wildlife and human communities. Listening, discovering local research priorities and getting feedback are essential. POLAR is constantly working to refine and expand its communications in this regard.

The results of POLAR research affect Northerners directly. It is also informed by them. It fosters an environment where more Northerners are involved in research at all levels, asking the questions, developing and performing the research projects, collaborating with scientists from around the world—and finding the answers that they need. We know this: when more Indigenous people are engaged in research, collective knowledge of the Arctic benefits.



CHARS Campus, home to Polar Knowledge Canada



POLAR requires that funded research projects share their results with the communities in which they work, and encourages:

- respectful incorporation of both science and Indigenous Knowledge in project design and implementation;
- leadership and involvement of Northerners, including communities and Indigenous peoples; and
- integration of training and capacitybuilding at the local or community level.

A benefit of these partnerships and exchanges is the opportunity for Canada to educate international researchers on the importance of respectfully integrating Indigenous Knowledge into science.

Being a permanent part of a Northern community provides opportunities to create new conversations including perspectives of Inuit Elders, youth, and community members, and to exchange ideas with other visitors to the campus. For example, remote sensing is combined with Inuit knowledge to generate realtime information on sea-ice conditions. This enhanced data improves safety in the Arctic, particularly as it relates to marine traffic, which is increasing. Evidence-based science and technology policy is vitally important to tackling the challenges that Arctic communities face in Canada. Science and technology, in concert with Indigenous and local knowledge, can help address the effects of climate change and other challenges. The knowledge gained through scientific and technological research and training will support greater sustainable use of the Arctic's land and natural resources. This is a win for everyone involved.



## Shelagh Grant Endowment for Northern and Arctic Research

The School for the Study of Canada at Trent University is pleased to announce a new graduate travel and translation fund for an exceptional incoming doctoral student who wishes to undertake research in Northern or Arctic contexts (i.e., any regions in Canada north of 50 degrees latitude). In addition to Trent's generous regular funding package, the School will provide a guaranteed research travel and translation allowance of up to \$20,000 to be used over the course of our four-year Ph.D. program (offered jointly with Carleton University), made possible by the Shelagh Grant Endowment. Preference will be given to a candidate whose research shall focus on one of the following thematic areas in Canadian Northern or Arctic contexts: history; archaeology, anthropology and cultural heritage; human ecology/climate change; borders and security; or aging, health and well-being. For further information, please contact Professor Joan Sangster '70, director of the Frost Centre, at jsangster@trentu.ca.



# NEW CANADA RESEARCH CHAIR TO STUDY ARCTIC SOVEREIGNTY, SECURITY & RESILIENCY



ne of Canada's foremost experts on Arctic history and contemporary Northern policy, Dr. Whitney Lackenbauer, will receive \$1.4 million over seven years to help improve academic, policy and public dialogue related to Canada's North, as Trent University's newest Tier 1 Canada research chair (CRC). Professor Lackenbauer joined Trent's School for the Study of Canada on July 1 as a CRC in the Study of the Canadian North—bringing the University's total number of CRCs to seven.

"We're excited to be welcoming Prof. Lackenbauer to Trent as a new faculty member, and congratulate him on his new role as a CRC," said Dr. Neil Emery, vicepresident, Research & Innovation. "His research area will complement Trent's leadership strengths in both the School for the Study of Canada and the Chanie Wenjack School for Indigenous Studies while also contributing to the future of our nation."

As CRC, Prof. Lackenbauer will examine how our understandings of history and contemporary affairs influence Northern strategies and policies, and how Canada can promote sovereignty, security and the resilience of Northern communities. This is timely, he says, as climate change is altering the northern landscape, opening up the region to increasing international activity, and generating concerns about sovereignty, security, and safety at the regional, national, and community levels. "My research throughout the Canadian North has profoundly shaped my understanding of our country and my role as a scholar," says Prof. Lackenbauer, previously an adjunct professor in Trent's Frost Centre for Canadian Studies and Indigenous Studies. "What excites me most about the CRC role is being able to offer similar opportunities to Trent students."

Prof. Lackenbauer specializes in Arctic governance issues, modern Canadian military and diplomatic history, and Indigenous-state relations. He has made a major impact in the fields of Arctic studies, the history of Canada's North, Indigenous-military relations and Northern public policy. In its millennium issue, *Maclean's Magazine* cited him as a "Canadian to watch" in the 21st century.

Prof. Lackenbauer is also an award-winning author. He has published a wide range of books, edited books, articles, book chapters, and policy papers on themes related to Canada's Arctic and the country's place in the broader circumpolar world. His books include The Canadian Rangers: A Living History, Canada and the Changing Arctic, and Arctic Front: Defending Canada in the Far North.

In recognition of his longstanding work with the Canadian Rangers, Prof. Lackenbauer has served as the honorary lieutenant colonel for 1st Canadian Ranger Patrol Group, based in Yellowknife and spanning Canada's three Northern territories, since 2014. He also sits on various national boards and working groups



dedicated to Canadian Arctic affairs including the Arctic Security Working Group and Canadian Arctic Resources Committee.

The number of CRCs at Trent is impressive for a university of its size. Trent's seven chair holders advance teaching and learning through their leading-edge explorations in diverse disciplines, and include the following:

- Dr. May Chazan, Feminist and Gender Studies
- Dr. Whitney Lackenbauer, Canadian North (Tier 1)
- Dr. Dennis Murray, Integrative Wildlife Conservation (Tier 1)
- Dr. Ian Power, Environmental Geosciences
- Dr. Mark Skinner, Rural Aging, Health and Social Care
- Dr. Aaron Slepkov, Physics of Biomaterials
- Dr. Paul Szpak, Environmental Archaeology

The Canada Research Chairs Program invests approximately \$265 million per year toward research across science and the humanities to attract and retain some of the world's most accomplished and promising minds. The CRC program has positioned Canada as an international leader and destination of choice in research and development.

"Whatever your interests are, you could find a way to work on them in the North."

- Jeannette Menzies '95





## WHERE THE ARCTIC MEETS THE INTERNET

### Trent University Announces Canada's First Online Circumpolar Studies Diploma

Global interest in the circumpolar region is on the rise and now, more than ever, it's important to deepen our understanding of Northern perspectives and the impact the circumpolar region has on the rest of the world. To address this need, Trent University has announced the creation of Canada's first fully-online Circumpolar Studies Diploma.

Launching in fall 2018, and offered exclusively online, the Circumpolar Studies Diploma will bring together scholars from across Canada and around the world to study the most important topics surrounding the circumpolar region's people and landscapes, its geographical and historical contexts, and issues of security in a changing political and environmental climate.

Speaking on the impact of the program, Dr. Heather Nicol, professor in the Trent School of the Environment, said:

"This comprehensive curriculum reflects the most current thinking about topics of importance to everyone—from undergraduate students looking for an understanding of our changing world to those who live and work in the North in an era of rapid change."

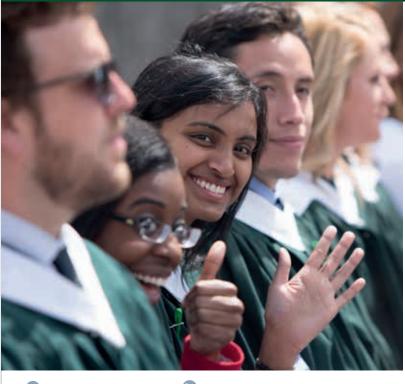
Developed by University of the Arctic specialists, together with experts from the Trent School of Environment, the Chanie Wenjack School for Indigenous Studies, the School for the Study of Canada, and more, this unique and flexible program provides students with the opportunity to learn from leading faculty members in the study of the Arctic and Canada's North from anywhere in the world.

The online diploma format will allow students to complete the program as a one-year diploma, or as a postgraduate diploma.

Applications for the Circumpolar Studies diploma program are now being accepted. Learn more at trentu.ca/futurestudents/circumpolar

# **ALUMNI BENEFITS & SERVICES**

# HELLO Savings!



 alumni@trentu.ca
Trent University Alumni Association page

- 💟 @TrentAlumni
- The Official Trent University Alumni Association
  @Trent\_Alumni

#### trentu.ca/alumni

#### Your education does not end when you leave Trent University. As an alumni, you can:

- Save money on insurance, athletics memberships and bookstore purchases
- \* Continue lifelong learning with free Bata Library membership, online journals, academic lectures and podcasts
- Advance your career through events, networking and professional development sessions
- Skill development through volunteer opportunities
- \* Free subscription to *TRENT Magazine*
- \* NEW Access over 1,500 perks with the new MemberPerks app





Do you ever wish you were still a student? Health coverage, no classes on Tuesdays, and an endless metabolism... Well, some things don't have to change!

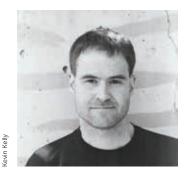
**Grad Perks** offers supplemental Health & Dental Plans that get you the coverage you need **and then some!** 

& more

Visit **studentvip.ca/gradperks** to ind out how you can access your coverage along with prescription delivery service, virtual doctor and much more! **We've got you covered.** 

e visit





# EXCERPTED FROM THE SATURDAY NIGHT GHOST CLUB

By Craig Davidson '94 (Ancient History/Classics)

### As a boy, I believed in monsters.

I was convinced that if I said "Bloody Mary" in front of a mirror, a hideous witch-woman would reach through the glass with nails sharp as splinters. I considered it a fact that the Devil lingered at shadowy crossroads and went to dance halls in disguise, where he'd ask the prettiest girl to dance and reel her across the floor while spectators stood terrorstricken at the sight of the Devil's goatish shanks, until the

girl fainted dead away and the Unclean One vanished in a puff of brimstone.

There was no falsehood I wouldn't swallow, no quilt of lies you couldn't drape over my all-too-gullible shoulders. But for a boy like me—chubby, freckled, awkward; growing up in a city where the erection of a new Kmart occasioned our mayor to announce, "This marks a wondrous new chapter in our town's history"—imagination was my greatest asset. Not to mention my defence against a foe worse than the most fearsome monster: loneliness.

My ally against that foe was my uncle Calvin. If I told him there was a bottomless pit in my basement, he'd say, "Tell me, Jake, is the air denser around

the mouth of the pit than in other areas of the basement?" Cocking an eyebrow: "Do ominous growling sounds emanate from this pit of yours?"

Uncle C was the ideal nursemaid for my paranoid fantasies. His knowledge of urban legends and folk-lore was encyclopedic—with the added bonus that he seemed to consider most of it true.

"Hey," he'd say, "did you know there are crocodiles living in the sewers of our fair city? The poor suckers get smuggled up from Florida by dumb tourists. Sure, they're cute as a bug's ear when they're six inches long.

But when they grow up and get nippy? *Ba-whooosh*, down the porcelain mistake eraser. They get fat 'n' sassy down there in the pipes, where there's plenty to eat if you're not choosy. Every year a couple of sanitation department workers get gobbled up by sewer crocs. The press bottles it up, unscrupulous snakes that they are, but it's a fact you can set your watch to."

Uncle C would fiddle with the beads of his bracelet each an ornate pewter Cthulhu head, mouths and eye sockets sprouting tentacles—and offer a wistful sigh. "And *that*, Jake, is why owning a pet is a big responsibility."



Once, when I was six or seven, I became convinced a monster lived in my closet. I told my dad, who did what 99 percent of adults do when their child makes this claim: he flung my closet door open, rattled coat hangers and shoved shoeboxes aside, making a Broadway production of it. "See? No monsters, Jake."

But monsters make themselves scarce when adults are around, only to slither back after dark. Every kid knew this to be an unshakable fact.

Uncle C arrived for dinner that night, as usual—Mom invited him every Sunday. He got an inkling of my worry as I sat picking at my Salisbury steak.

"What's the matter, hombre?"

"We have an unwanted visitor in a closet, apparently," Mom informed him.

"But we've established that there's no monster," my father said. "Right, buddy?"

"Ah," said Uncle C. "I have some expertise in this area. Sam, with your permission?"

Mom turned to my father and said, "Sam," in the tone of voice you'd use to calm a jittery horse.

"Of course, Cal, as you like," my father said.

My uncle pedalled home to his house, returning ten minutes later with a tool box.

Once we were in my bedroom he motioned to the closet. "I take it this is its lair?"

l nodded.

"Closets are a favourite haunt of monsters," my uncle explained. "Most are harmless, even good-tempered, if they have enough dust bunnies and cobwebs to eat. Do you clean your closet?"

I assured him that it was hardly ever tidied unless my mother forced the chore on me.

"Good, let them feast. If they get too hungry they'll crawl over to your clothes hamper and eat holes in your underwear. No need to check the seat of your drawers for confirmation, as I can see by your expression that yours have indeed met this cruel fate."

Calvin cracked the tool box and pulled out an instrument—one that today I'd recognize as a stud finder.

"It's a monster tracer," he said, running it over the closet walls, making exploratory taps with his knuckles. "There are token traces of ectoplasm," he said in the voice of a veteran contractor. "Monster slime, in layman's terms. What does this monster look like?"

"Hairy in some parts, slimy in others."



Continued from page 23.

"What's its shape? Like a snake, or a blob?"

"A blob. But it can stretch, too, so it can look like a snake if it wants."

"We're dealing with a hairy, slimy blob with uncanny stretching capacities." He gripped his chin. "Sounds like a Slurper Slug. They're common around these parts."

"A slug?"

"Correct, but we're not talking your garden-variety slug." He laughed—actually, he exclaimed *ha-ha*. "A little paranormal humour for you, Jake my boy. These peculiar and particularly gross slugs infest closets and crawl spaces. You haven't been keeping anything tasty in your closet, have you?" "That's where I put my Halloween candy."

"Slurper Slug, then, guaranteed. They're not dangerous, just revolting. They could make a mortician barf his biscuits. If you let one hang around he'll call his buddies and before long you've got an infestation on your hands."

He rooted through his tool box for a pouch of fine red powder. "This is cochineal, made from the crushed shells of beetles. It's used in containment spells."



#### Alumnus Craig Davidson Featured in 2018 Canada Reads Contest

Trent University alumnus Craig Davidson received some major attention this year. His novel, *Precious Cargo*, was announced as a CBC Canada Reads contender for this year's competition (which took place last March). While Mr. Davidson's novel didn't come out on top, the experience gained him national exposure in what he calls the "Grey Cup of Canadian Literature."

#### About Precious Cargo (from Knopf Canada):

One morning in 2008, desperate and impoverished while trying unsuccessfully to write, Craig Davidson plucked a flyer out of his mailbox that read, "Bus Drivers Wanted." That was the first step towards an unlikely new career: driving a school bus full of special-needs kids for a year. Davidson shows us how his evolving relationship with the kids on that bus, each of them struggling physically as well as emotionally and socially, slowly but surely changed his life along with the lives of the "precious cargo" in his care. This is the extraordinary story of that year and those relationships. It is also a moving, important and universal story about how we see and treat people with special needs in our society.

Davidson's first short story collection, *Rust and Bone*, was published in 2005 by Penguin Books Canada, and was a finalist for the 2006 Danuta Gleed Literary Award. Stories from Rust and Bone have been adapted into a play by Australian playwright Caleb Lewis and a film by French director Jacques Audiard.

Davidson also released a novel in 2007 named *The Fighter*.

His 2013 novel *Cataract City* was named as a shortlisted nominee for the 2013 Scotiabank Giller Prize.

In addition to his literary fiction, Davidson has also published several works of horror literature under the pseudonyms Patrick Lestewka and Nick Cutter. In 2014, he released the thriller novel *The Troop* with *The Deep* following in 2015.

#### Praise for Precious Cargo:

"Craig Davidson's *Precious Cargo* [is] an almost singular accomplishment—a work of non-fiction that's a pleasure to read, despite being about an able-bodied man who decides to hang out with disabled people. The book's skillfulness shouldn't be a surprise. Toronto-born Davidson is an accomplished novelist: his most recent, *Cataract City*, was shortlisted for the Giller prize while his first book of stories, *Rust and Bone*, became a harrowing Golden Globesnominated film.... [He] knows how to kick a story along.... Davidson has a sharp ear for dialogue, and the conversations he has on the bus are the best parts of his book."

—Ian Brown, The Globe and Mail

*"Precious Cargo ...* is a thoroughly entertaining, heartfelt glimpse into the life of a writer.... Precious Cargo is the best kind of memoir: light-hearted despite its often serious content, erudite, eye-opening, and thought-provoking. It's also damned funny." –Quill & Quire

"From the start, this book is unique.... *Precious Cargo* is a tale of growth and redemption.... [*Precious Cargo*] is shot through with images both uproarious ... and tender-hearted. Together, they depict Davidson's unsentimental education, and offer insight on how best to suffer life's slings and arrows." –*Maclean's* 

He laid down a line of powder in the shape of a keyhole: "This," he said, pointing to the circle, "is the trap. The Slurper Slug will traipse up this path, see, which gets narrower and narrower until the Slug gets stuck in the Circle of No Return. There it will turn black as night and hard as rock. Now, you'll have to pull one hair out of your head to bait the slug trap."



I plucked a single strand, which my uncle laid softly in the trap. "Go ask your mom if she has any chocolate chips."

I went down to the kitchen to find my folks engaged in a hushed conversation. My father's shoulders were vibrating like twin tuning forks.

"Chocolate chips, huh?" Mom said in a Susie-Cheerleader voice. "I've only got butterscotch."

By the time I got back, the closet was shut. My uncle instructed me to lay a trail of butterscotch chips along the door.

"The sweetness will draw that Slug out of hiding. Now listen, Jake, and listen carefully. If you peek inside the closet, the spell will be broken. Under no circumstances can it be opened until tomorrow morning. No matter the sounds you may hear dribbling through this door, you must leave it closed. Do you swear this to me?"

"Yes, I promise."

"By the Oath of the White Mage, do you swear it?"

When I admitted I didn't know that oath, he stuck out his little finger. "The pinkie variety will suffice."

I linked my finger with his and squeezed.

"Cross your heart and hope to die?"

"Stick a needle in my eye," I said solemnly.

I awoke to sunlight streaming through the window. I crept to the closet and opened it. Just as Uncle C had said, the keyhole was now only a circle

and in the middle sat an object that was dark as night and hard as rock. My uncle was taking off his boots in the front hall when I stormed downstairs.

"The trap worked!" I told him, dragging him up the stairs to show him the blackened slug.

"Pick it up," he said. "It may still be a little warm but it won't burn you." Queasy warmth pulsed off the slug, or so it felt to me.

"It's not every day that you can hold a monster in your palm, is it, Jake?" That lump of obsidian would rest on my nightstand for years. Then one

day I noticed it sitting between my Junior Sleuths magnifying glass and a dog-eared reissue of Stephen King's *Carrie*, the one with the art deco cover. Opening the drawer, I swept the volcanic rock inside, embarrassed that I'd once been fear-struck by anything so infantile as a snot-ball slug in my closet....

An hour later I took it out and put it back where it belonged.

Copyright ©2018 Craig Davidson. Published by Alfred A. Knopf Canada, a division of Penguin Random House Canada Limited. Reproduced by arrangement with the Publisher. All rights reserved.

# **PUBLIC TEXTS AT TRENT**

The English M.A. (Public Texts) program at Trent University explores what it means to "go public"—to "publish" and how that act resonates for writers, cultures, and publics. Students develop new ways of looking at the production and circulation of texts, and at the history and future of texts and publics, exploring emerging issues that are central to research today.

The English M.A. (Public Texts) is the only program in Canada to offer four ways to complete a degree: by Internship, by Major Research Paper, by Research Creation, or by Thesis.

In collaboration with the Creative Book Publishing Program at Humber College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning, the Public Texts program also offers to a select number of students the opportunity to simultaneously earn an M.A. degree in English (Public Texts) and an Ontario Graduate Certificate in Creative Book Publishing. This option is available to students in all three streams of the M.A. program, but is best suited to students in the internship option-who will then have available to them a wide range of Internships through Humber College's association with many of Canada's leading publishers.

Students in the program have access to a large collection of Canadian literature and current editorial projects with which Trent English faculty are associated. Students may also participate in two Graduate Collaborative Specialization programs: Feminist and Gender Studies and Aging Studies.

Find out more about the Public Texts M.A. at trentu.ca/english/ programs/english-ma-public-texts



# **INNOVATION & POLICYMAKING**



**Alison Van Rooy '86** (Comparative Development Studies/Politics) Asia Pacific Policy Hub convenor, Global Affairs

have a great job: a convenor of policy discussions on Canada's role in Asia. Even though I left Peterborough almost 30 years ago, my job keeps me thinking Trent-inspired questions every day. Why do we do what we do? What would be better? How would we know if we were successful?

These questions followed me everywhere. I did graduate work at Oxford ("Why do governments sometimes listen to NGOs?"), undertook research on civil society at The North-South Institute ("How do civil society organizations affect global governance?"), and now work in the federal government on a range of other "Why? What? How?" questions, mostly about Canada's role in the world. A big recent achievement (working along with hundreds of colleagues at Global Affairs) was the June 2017 launch of the Feminist International Assistance Policy, an important change in the "How?" of Canada's work with change agents around the world.

I love what I do, not only because the issues are important but also because the way we think about them is becoming more innovative. Many of the world's governments, including Canada's, are *genuinely* committed to innovation in policymaking. I emphasize the word genuine because not everyone equates government with innovation, but I am seeing new ideas everywhere. Let me point out some tip-of-the-iceberg examples.

Alison Van Rooy photo: Samantha Moss, Mossworks

The huge success of the Government of Denmark's MindLab set up to experiment with new ways to find and define problems and approaches to solving them stimulated government innovation labs around the world. In the UK, NESTA (National Endowment for Science, Technology, and the Arts) invests in government innovation on how to tackle enduring social problems in many countries. The US Global Development Lab within USAID—which I got to visit—works with other players to test innovative tools and approaches that make a bigger development impact.

This wave is evident across Canadian government departments, too. There are innovation labs at Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada; Employment and Social Development Canada; the Bank of Canada; and elsewhere where innovators (inside and outside government) work together in novel ways. There are innovation courses and events at the Canada School of Public Service (where I spent some of my career) and TED-Talk-like FED Talks and Policy Ignite after-hours sessions to bounce new ideas. There are official Innovation Champions who encourage experimentation, data analysis, andimportantly—acceptance of occasional failure as a necessary ingredient for success.

This enthusiasm comes in part from Blueprint 2020, a call by the clerk of the Privy Council to be more open and networked, take a greater wholeof-government approach, make smarter use of new technologies, and find better ways of working. In the clerk's latest report, some of those new ways were highlighted, including the consultation process we rolled out for the Feminist International Assistance Policy, involving five Canadian cities, 65 countries, and more than 15,000 people, reflected back to the world through an online, interactive *What We Heard* report.



The Feminist International Assistance Policy involved 5 CANADIAN CITIES 65 COUNTRIES more than 15,000 PEOPLE

I find this high-level encouragement energizing, and so do many of my colleagues: some 67% of public servants reported through the Public Service Employee Survey that they are encouraged to be innovative or take initiative in their work. At Global Affairs, that number is 74%. Of course, there are always hurdles: culture change is slow in bureaucracies and big organizations. There are always resource constraints and people are always too busy. That is true in every field of work. But I think we need to work differently precisely because there are resource constraints and we are always, always too busy.

Continued on the following page.



From left: Dr. Leo Groarke, Donald Bobiash, assistant-deputy minister, Asia-Pacific at Global Affairs Canada; and Alison Van Rooy, Asia Pacific Policy Hub convenor, Global Affairs. Mr. Bobiash and Ms. Van Rooy met with the president to discuss Trent's place in the global academic community.

#### Continued.

Our small team is taking the call to innovation to heart. Reporting to the assistant deputy minister of Asia Pacific, we work with our foreign policy, trade, and development colleagues to put their expertise to use in new ways. Our focus is on the "How?" of policymaking: is there a better way to understand the various interpretations of a problem, identify the range of arguments and evidence points put forward, generate diverse (and conflicting) options, and make sound decisions?

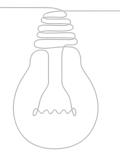
#### Here is some of what we do that is different:

**Think Fast.** We organize purposeful, fast, non-hierarchical conversations on important topics or countries to help teams set priorities. Think workshops, brainstorming games, white-boarding, Timbits.

**Think First.** We stir conversations at the beginning of an idea, long before pen is put to paper, to draft a proposal or briefing note. (Writing things down too early usually triggers the urge to edit rather than to innovate). Think with Others. Whenever we can, we invite others into the room who aren't part of the usual conversation. While balancing teams' needs for a safe space to speak frankly, we also need to have different voices around the table.

Think Visually. We use pictures, tape, coloured paper, sticky notes, and markers to help us think visually. We take advantage of our brains' capacities to analyze visual information much more quickly than we can with the printed word alone. Think Out of the Office. We aim to dislodge our practices (at least a bit) from our cubicle world, and convene our conversations in more creative spaces, such as the department's new Collaboration Centre, complete with multicolour chairs and crazy Canadian art. We know that where we think affects how we think.

This kind of innovation isn't about technology or shiny new products, it is about mindset. Governments (as well as NGOs, community organizations, businesses, and more) need universities like Trent to build that innovative thinking habit, that collaborative reflex. The next generation of policymakers not only needs to understand the problems of our world—the "Why? What? How?"—but also the many ways we can knit our combined talents to solving them.



## New 16-Month Master of Management to Launch Exclusively at Trent University Durham GTA

Trent University will equip the next generation of management leaders for success in the global business world with the launch of a new 16-month Master of Management (M.Mgt.) program offered exclusively at the University's Durham Campus in the Greater Toronto Area.

Starting this autumn and now open for applications, the M.Mgt. was created especially for students with an undergraduate degree in a non-business major. Providing students with a grounding in a broad spectrum of business and management disciplines, from accounting to corporate finance and marketing to strategic management, the program also encourages students to understand the larger social issues facing businesses in a rapidly changing environment.

A uniquely advantageous feature of the M.Mgt. is a summer work integrated learning opportunity designed to ensure students graduate with the edge needed to succeed in a competitive business environment, both in Canada and overseas.

"The work placement is a projectbased initiative that will allow students to translate the theory learned in the classroom in the first two terms into practical, real-world experience, which is highly valued by employers," says Dr. Amina Malik, assistant professor in the School of Business at Trent, and interim director of the program. "The final term will provide students the opportunity to reflect on their practical experience and to bring their work experience into their classroom learning.

"The Master of Management is for students looking to develop advanced and sophisticated leadership skills as a complement to their undergraduate education," adds Professor Malik. "We will explore management theory and practice on a human scale. Through small-group learning scenarios with award-winning faculty, students will also benefit from a combination of independent and collaborative learning experiences." Developed to address the needs of today's employers and give graduates the competitive edge in the job market, the program is open to nonbusiness majors who have completed their undergraduate degree within five years of starting the program. The M.Mgt. will also have broad appeal for international students.

"The new program, located exclusively at our Durham GTA campus, will complement the unique mix of humanities and social science undergraduate programs at our campus," said Joe Muldoon, head of Trent Durham GTA. "Students in the program will benefit from a summer work placement in the GTA, less than an hour from downtown Toronto, Canada's largest commercial centre."

Part of the prestigious School of Business at Trent, the M.Mgt. program will begin in September, 2018 and is currently open for applications.

Learn more at: trentu.ca/graduatestudies/mmgt



# **PROFESSORS EMERITI** Help Students Gain Global Perspective

rs. David Morrison and Alena Heitlinger have been helping Trent students think more globally for several decades. The annual David Morrison Lecture in International Development brings to Trent distinguished scholars who are renowned for the impact their intellectual and applied work has had on international development studies. As well as funding the lectures, Drs. Morrison and Heitlinger are now also supporting Trent International in recognizing outstanding student contributions to internationalization, encouraging the expansion of horizons through study abroad and assisting international students in need.

David Morrison is the founding chair of what is now the International Development Studies program, and a former director of the Trent International Program. He says: "Through study and interaction with faculty and students from their own and other countries, Canadian and international students benefit enormously from critical learning about global challenges."

Trent International has a strong and proud history of internationalizing

undergraduate education and has been a leader in Canada in providing personalized support to international students. "It's an incredibly powerful experience," explains Glennice Burns, associate vice president of Trent International. "International students who come to Trent help bring a worldview to campus, and students who study abroad widen their global view. It's a long-lasting experience that helps shape a student's future."

Trent also actively encourages domestic students to participate in a study-abroad program at one of the 52 institutions with which Trent has reciprocal agreements. For most students, it can be daunting to leave their home country, but doing so pushes them out of their comfort zone and teaches them to thrive in a variety of situations. With the right support, students develop crosscultural competencies and problemsolving skills that will serve them well in the future. It's a challenge they won't regret—it makes them more competitive in their job search, and more valuable to employers. In fact, more than 80% of employers



From left: Glennice Burns, associate vice president of Trent International; Dr. Alena Heitlinger; 2017 lecturer Dr. Ha-Joon Chang (David Morrison Lecture Series in International Development); Dr. David Morrison; and Dr. Paul Shaffer, associate professor and chair of International Development Studies.

that hire recruits with cross-cultural understanding and knowledge of the global marketplace say these employees enhance their company's competitiveness.<sup>1</sup>

A former chair of the Sociology Department, Alena Heitlinger was herself an international and refugee student. She understands the value of studying abroad firsthand, describing her own experience as "life-altering and transformational. This is one of the main reasons why David and I are committed to the internationalization of Trent."

Through the invited speakers in their lecture series, Drs. Morrison and Heitlinger have been inspiring Trent students and reaching out to the broader university and Peterborough communities since 2008. They have recently furthered their commitment to Trent students through the creation of the Morrison-Heitlinger Trent International Fund to support existing and new student prizes, scholarships or bursaries, study abroad or other student assistance within Trent International. They have also established the Morrison-Heitlinger International Student Assistance Fund to help international students who find themselves in financial need because of unforeseen circumstances.

Thank you Drs. David Morrison and Alena Heitlinger, for helping Trent students gain a global perspective. If you would like to help build international bridges today through study abroad programs, or to assist international students that enhance the Trent experience, please contact **Lorelei Wilkinson '84** 1 855 MY TRENT ext. 6025 or visit **trentu.ca/give** 

<sup>1</sup> Leger Marketing employer survey for Universities Canada, 2014.

#### Celebrating Philanthropic Support of International Students and Study Abroad Opportunities



Donors provide continued support of Trent's International students and study abroad opportunities through the following prizes, awards, bursaries and scholarships:

# Why Supporting International Students Matters

A thank you letter from the 2016-17 Justin Chiu Scholar Sogyal Samdup, Bhutan

My first year at Trent University has been an amazing experience. Although I come from a country and culture which is very different, Trent has welcomed



me and I feel that I have blended in well, whether it was in academics or residence. I have met and befriended students from all over the world, including Uganda, China, England, and of course, Canada.

The beautiful campus, especially the unique architecture of the buildings, never ceases to amaze me and I feel at peace walking beside the pristine Otonabee river. I especially enjoyed spending time in the Bata Library.

My experience at Trent makes me appreciate not just Canada, its education system and the people, but it also makes me think of how my own beautiful country can develop in terms of the education system—and how I can contribute towards Bhutan's development. I feel really fortunate to be able to study here at Trent and benefit from all that Trent has to offer. But of course, none of this would have been possible if not for your help, and therefore I am very grateful for your support.

Yours sincerely, Sogyal Tashi Samdup

Arndt Kruger Prize Arnold & Doris Noftall Bursaries Barkley's of Avonmore Visa Bursary Berna Theobalds Prize Bill & Dorothy Slavin Bursary Bridgett Butt Trent-in-Guana Award Cogeco Bursary David Morrison Fund for International Education David Morrison Lecture Series in International Development David Morrison Prize Dr. Alicja and Dr. Gosia Zobel Student Conference Fund Dr. Leslie Calvert Bursary Dr. Mike Allcott Prize Dr. Ruggles & Elizabeth Pritchard Graduate Bursary Edward Tremain Award for Study Abroad German Studies Bursary Ghana & Ecuador Travel Fund Hulcoop Cup **IDS First Year Prize** IDST Bursary for Study Abroad International Graduate Student Bursary International Student Travel Prize International Students' Scholarships Jack Matthews International Scholarship and Prize Jack Matthews Study Abroad Graduate Awards Jack Matthews Study Abroad Undergraduate Awards John G. McKeown Legacy Bursary John Hillman Prize John Wadland Undergraduate Award for Canadian & International Students Joseph Wearing Travel Fellowship Justin Chiu International Student Scholarship Karanja Njoroge Community Service Prize Keppler Bursaries for German Studies

Leonard Conolly Prize Maha & Murad Younis International Student Bursary Manasalvas Trent-in-Ecuador Student Assistance Fund Mary Kennedy Bursary for Canadian & International Students Moore Family Canadian & International Graduate Award Morrison-Heitlinger International Student Assistance Fund Morrison-Heitlinger Trent International Fund Nantes Year-Abroad Program Fund Naomi Harder Memorial Bursary Prendiville Family Travel Award for Study Abroad Rhoda Johnston Memorial Bursary Rita Chiu Study Abroad Bursaries Robert Campbell Friends of TIP Prize Sarah F. Gunderson Memorial Graduate Bursary Sceptre Investment Counsel Limited Bursary Scotiabank International Student Scholarship & Prize Setzu Suzuki Bursary Sir Donald Banks Prize Thomas J. Bata Graduate Scholarship Trent Part-Time Student Association (TPSA) Legacy Bursary Trent Student Financial Assistance Fund Trent WUSC Refugee Trust Fund Vernon Family Graduate Bursary W.A. Dobson Travel Award William & Jeffrey Hambin Memorial Graduate Award William Thompson Graduate Bursary Woonjin Jung Computing Systems Prize Youngsuk Jung Environmental Science Bursary

# **CRITICAL AGING STUDIES COMES OF AGE**

## Five Years of Challenging The Way We Think About Aging

#### **Justin Sutton '09**

ecalling the grassroots creation of the Trent Centre for Aging & Society (TCAS), Dr. Stephen Katz, professor emeritus, remarked, "Some years ago, I realized that Trent has some of the most interesting, productive, and innovative scholars in aging studies and aging research, but they come from different disciplines. Rather than isolating aging to a gerontological program, or sociology, I thought about forming a research group that would invite people from all walks of research and areas and experience to work together, as long as we held a similar critical and interdisciplinary perspective and shared a series of common problems around aging and the life course and old age."

What happened next went beyond what Professor Katz had ever imagined possible. More than a dozen faculty members responded to his call to collaborate and an informal group coalesced around a shared passion to critically engage with age-related issues. According to Prof. Katz, the Centre was born "out of circumstance and opportunity," thanks to the commitment and energy of founding director (now acting dean of Social Sciences), Dr. Mark Skinner; current director, Dr. Sally Chivers; as well as several other key scholars, including Dr. Barb Marshall, Sociology.

Professor Marshall's work in age studies is part of her commitment to scholarship that has a social justice orientation at its heart. She describes this as being "inextricably entwined with my work as a feminist sociologist." Further, she says, "This is what has provided the overarching framework for my academic career—the commitment to exposing, analyzing and changing social constructions of difference and inequality and their intersections as these are produced and experienced."

What began as a series of hallway conversations many years ago with Prof. Katz developed into a wideranging program of research andon aging, sexuality, embodiment, technologies, and even curling! "Collaboration with others, at Trent and elsewhere, including longstanding colleagues like Stephen, and former students like Dr. Kristi Allain (who is now an assistant professor of Sociology at St. Thomas University), as well as newer collaborators like Dr. Linn Sandberg from Södertörn University in Sweden, has been really important in developing these projects," Prof. Marshall says. "I think research like ours is particularly important in a political climate shaped by austerity to counter the perception that aging populations are a drain on social resources and older people are a risky and problematic bunch."

Since TCAS became an official research centre just five years ago, its

members, who include two Canada research chairs, have attracted more than \$2.7 million in funding for projects that cover a broad range of topics and disciplines. One such project, completed in partnership with the Trent Community Research Centre, served to inform Peterborough's Agefriendly Community Action Plan, which is now part of the city and county's official plan. Another seven-year, multi-million-dollar project saw Trent scholars, both faculty and students, travel with international colleagues from a wide array of disciplines to six countries in an effort to reimagine long-term residential care by sharing the "promising practices" they uncovered with a broad audience.

Prof. Marshall's most recent work, Digital Infrastructures of Health and Aging, focuses on the notion that electronic devices enlist their wearers into producing and circulating their own health information and data.



Nicole Dalmer and Dr. Barb Marshall



# TRENT AGING S MAY 28-31, 2019

Trent University Peterborough, Canada

trentaging2019.com

"Tracking the way older people use electronic devices in their daily lives will allow us to contribute meaningfully to ethical debates about participatory surveillance and what that might mean for healthcare management," says Prof. Marshall. "Importantly, this work also treats older people as a *source* of innovation."

Prof. Marshall's project is one part of a larger million-dollar international study that includes partners in the Netherlands, Spain, and Sweden. Like all members of the Centre, Dr. Marshall is also passionate about training the next generations of scholars. Indeed, part of the mandate of Digital Infrastructures is to collaborate with early stage researchers and offer them the chance to work with, and learn from, more established scholars.

Nicole Dalmer, recent recipient of the Michael F. Harcourt post-doctoral fellowship from AGE-WELL NCE, is one of the project's post-doctoral fellows. Ms. Dalmer, whose doctoral thesis is currently under review at Western University's Library and Information Sciences program, focused her graduate work on looking at the ways that information intersects with care, specifically examining the ways that family caregivers use information to guide and support their care work.

"I am excited to be working and learning with Dr. Barb Marshall and look forward to the possibilities and collaborations with members of TCAS and the Department of Sociology," she says. "I look forward to applying my interests in the ways that people use information and technology in their everyday and every night lives to the international Digital Infrastructures project."

The growing renown of the Centre's membership has become an important factor in attracting high caliber international scholars to Trent University. So far, Prof. Marshall has

hosted graduate or postgraduate students for short-term visits from Austria, Germany, and Sweden. Others have hosted visitors from Australia, Finland, Ireland, New Zealand, and Spain. TCAS' unique identity as a Centre that is not just multidisciplinary, but truly interdisciplinary provides a synergy that will continue to make it an important locus for future work on aging. Indeed, researchers associated with the Centre are developing critical intersections with Indigenous studies, sexual diversity studies, social activism and arts-based methodologies. So, too, the recent appointment of Dr. Sally Chivers as director will almost certainly see the Centre working to ally age studies with other critical perspectives like feminist and disability studies.

The Centre will host an international conference in May 2019 called Take Back Aging: Power, Critique, Imagination (trentaging2019. com), which Prof. Marshall cites as further evidence that TCAS is heading toward even greater success. Indeed, more than two hundred delegates are expected to come from as far afield as Australia, Europe, Israel, Japan, North and South America, and beyond. "I think TCAS has a bright future," she says, "with a stellar group of researchers, many of whom have attracted stable, long-term funding from external agencies, which means an enhanced ability to bring in students and postdocs as well as to support diverse

knowledge mobilization activities like TrentAging2019 that will increase our public profile. As a member of the executive, I'm also impressed by the range of applications we see for affiliation with the Centre." Trent University's recent affiliation with the Age-friendly University Global Network, which has its roots in Ireland, and with the AGE WELL Network of Centres of Excellence, also suggests the Trent Centre for Aging & Society's reputation as a hub of creative, inspiring, policyrelevant work on aging will continue to flourish for many exciting years to come. Continued on the following page.

• • •

## 2018 STEPHEN KATZ LECTURE: DR. AMANDA GRENIER

#### Wednesday, October 10, 2018 5:30 p.m., Bagnani Hall Traill College, Trent University

If this work is important to you, please consider supporting The Stephen Katz Distinguished Visiting Scholar in Interdisciplinary Aging Studies program. Created to recognize Dr. Katz's immense contributions to his field and to the creation of the Centre, the Katz program invites a leading scholar to Trent University every year to present their research in a public forum and mentor new scholars in the field of critical aging studies. Donations can be made here: **trentu.ca/katzlecture** 



**CONTRIBUTORS** 

SARAH COX '85 graduated from Trent University with a B.A. (Hon.) in Political Science, Public Policy and a minor in Indigenous Studies. She also earned a Master's degree in Public Policy and Public Administration from Concordia University. She is the director of the Circumpolar Affairs Directorate in the Department of Intergovernmental and Northern Affairs and Internal Trade, Government of Canada. Ms. Cox is also the head of the Canadian Delegation for Sustainable Development Working Group of the Arctic Council, an intergovernmental organization comprised of eight countries and six Indigenous circumpolar organizations.



JEANNETTE MENZIES '95 has a M.A. in Canadian Studies from Trent University. She is the director of Knowledge and Engagement at Polar Knowledge Canada (POLAR). Ms. Menzies formerly held positions as: head of the Canadian International Centre for the Arctic Region (Embassy of Canada to Norway); deputy director, Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Response; and deputy director, Circumpolar Affairs.



**CRAIG DAVIDSON '94** has a Trent University B.A. in Ancient History and Classics. His first short story collection, *Rust and Bone*, was published in 2005 by Penguin Books Canada, and was a finalist for the 2006 Danuta Gleed Literary Award. His 2013 novel *Cataract City* was named as a shortlisted nominee for the 2013 Scotiabank Giller Prize. In addition to his literary fiction, Mr. Davidson has also published several works of horror literature under the pseudonyms Patrick Lestewka and Nick Cutter. In 2014, he released the thriller novel *The Troop* with *The Deep* following in 2015.

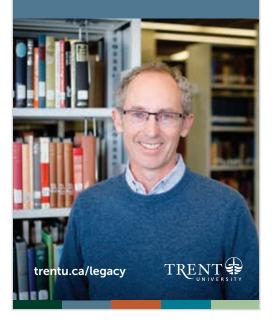


The Trent University Alumni Association Annual General Meeting; plus Alumni gatherings in New York, Vancouver, Victoria, Hong Kong, Ottawa, Montreal, Oshawa/Durham, Toronto; and more!

 Check out our full event listings. mycommunity.trentu.ca/events



ALISON VAN ROOY '86 has a Trent B.A. (Hon.) in Comparative Development Studies and Politics. She is the co-convenor, Asia Pacific Policy Hub and the deputy director, Development Policy Planning, for Global Affairs Canada. While at Trent, Ms. Van Rooy was honoured with a Rhodes Scholarship and went on to earn a D.Phil. in International Relations from Oxford.



# EMERGENCY PHYSICIAN

**THOMAS MILLER '82** 

Legacy Society\_

TRENT BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEMBER HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATE COMMUNITY CATALYST MONT VENTOUX CYCLIST

Remembering Trent in his Will, Tom's legacy will ensure the vibrant, residential, academic, college-based education he is grateful for remains central to Trent.

#### What will your legacy be?

# LIBERATE YOUR MIND. ACCELERATE YOUR CAREER.

GUARANTEED CAREER-RELATED EXPERIENCE FOR EVERY STUDENT

Whether you graduated as part of our first class or in recent years, you've experienced first-hand academic excellence with a difference at Trent.

Today, your Trent University has all the same qualities with a host of new degrees – more choice than ever before for students who are #trentubound.

Law & Arts/Law & Business Dual Degree • Policing & Community Well-Being\* Chemical Engineering Dual Degree\* • Forensic Chemistry • Forensic Biology Medical & Veterinary Pathways • Endless Joint Majors & Options • Master of Management and a growing list of graduate programs

Come back for your second Trent degree. Learn online. Or encourage a student to discover the transformative Trent experience for themselves.

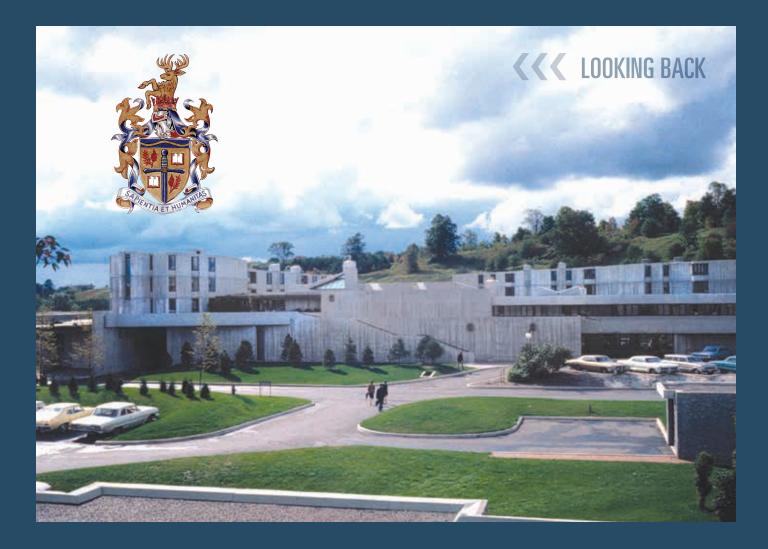
#### trentu.ca/discover

## FALL OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, October 27, 2018 Durham GTA campus Friday, November 2, 2018 Peterborough campus

### **TOURS DAILY**





# SAPIENTIA ET HUMANITAS Wisdom and a Compassionate Outlook

"I have always been conscious that the absorption of knowledge must be a continuing project, without end. I have kept an open mind, I trust, and have gone on to learn day by day. I hope I shall keep on doing so as long as I live." – Lady Flora Eaton

Members of the Trent and Lady Eaton College communities are encouraged to join us as we celebrate the college's 50th anniversary year beginning in September 2018. Students, staff, faculty, alumni and retirees are all welcome.

For more details on anniversary events, visit trentu.ca/colleges/welcome/lady-eaton-college/events-traditions/ celebrating-50-years